

MAINE SUBSURFACE WASTE WATER DISPOSAL RULES

10-144 CMR 241

SUMMARY

This rule governs the siting, design, construction and inspection of subsurface wastewater disposal systems in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Maine. Approved procedures, design and siting requirements, materials, methods and administrative policies are described in detail.

BASIS STATEMENT: These Rules provide minimum State design criteria for subsurface wastewater disposal to assure environmental sanitation and safety. These Rules are intended to complement municipal planning, zoning, and land use control.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2009

AUTHORITY: Title 22 MRSA §42

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CHAPTER 1

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 100.0 GENERAL

100.1 Title: These regulations are known as the “Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules”, from now on referred to as “this code.” The effective date is August 1, 2009.

100.2 Scope: This code establishes a set of standards, requirements, and procedures to protect public health and the environment from biological and chemical contamination. Such contamination may result if improperly treated wastewater is released either onto the surface of the ground or into the ground water from an on-site collection, storage, or treatment system.

100.3 Interpretation: This code must be interpreted so as to assure the proper treatment and installation of subsurface systems for the disposal of wastewater.

100.4 Intent: The intent of this code is to ensure public safety, health, and welfare insofar as they are affected by the installation and maintenance of subsurface wastewater disposal systems (from now on referred to as “systems”).

100.5 Wastewater disposal: Any wastewater, as defined in this code must be disposed of by one of the following methods:

(1) **On-site disposal:** A subsurface wastewater disposal system designed, installed, and used in accordance with this code;

(2) **Public sewer:** A public sewer system; or

(3) **Licensed discharge:** A wastewater discharge system licensed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection under Title 38 MRSA §413 and §414-A, as amended.

100.6 Public sewer connection: When public sewers come within 200 feet of the premises served, the use of systems must comply with Title 38 MRSA §1160 or when required under Title 30A MRSA §3405.

100.7 Malfunctioning system: When a malfunctioning system is discovered, the system must be corrected or its use discontinued within that period of time required by the plumbing inspector’s order.

SECTION 101.0 APPLICABILITY

101.1 General: The provisions of this code cover all matters affecting or relating to systems.

101.2 Matters not provided for: There may be subsurface wastewater disposal requirements essential for the sanitation and safety of the occupants thereof that are not specifically covered by this code. Such requirements shall be determined by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (from now on referred to as the “Department”) with the concurrence of the plumbing inspector.

101.3 Continuation of unlawful use: The continuation of occupancy or use of a structure with a system, or part thereof, contrary to the provisions of this code must be deemed a violation of this code.

101.4 Referenced standards: Where differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced standards, the provisions of this code must apply.

101.5 Revocation by Department: The Department may revoke or rescind any written decision it has made, if the decision was made in error. The Department shall only take such action upon demonstration that such decision was based in part or whole upon inaccurate information or false representation(s); or upon determination that the Department failed to follow procedures otherwise required under provisions of these Rules. The Department may also revoke any variance approval upon failure of the owner/applicant to comply with all requirements of the approval.

SECTION 102.0 VALIDITY

102.1 Partial invalidity: In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this does not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions of this code that may be determined to be legal. It must be presumed that this code would have passed without such illegal or invalid parts or provisions.

102.2 Segregation of invalid provisions: Any invalid part of this code be segregated from the remainder of the code by the court holding such part invalid, and the remainder must remain effective.

102.3 Existing systems: The invalidity of any provision of this code as applied to existing systems must not be held to affect the validity of such section in its application to systems hereafter built.

SECTION 103.0 EXISTING SYSTEMS

103.1 Conditions of use: The use of any subsurface wastewater disposal system that was in existence and functional prior to July 1, 1974, is allowed provided all of the following conditions are met.

(1) **Design flow:** The current calculated wastewater design flow is equal to or less than the calculated value prior to July 1, 1974; and

(2) **System Status:** The system is not currently malfunctioning as defined in Chapter 3, and

(3) **System Use:** Use of the system has not been discontinued for a period of five years or more.

103.2 Expanded Systems: Any system in existence and functioning prior to July 1, 1974 not in compliance with Section 103.1.1 must be replaced or enlarged using the criteria for an expansion; as appropriate; as described in Chapter 17.

103.3 Malfunctioning Systems: Any system in existence and functioning prior to July 1, 1974 not in compliance with the conditions of Section 103.1.2 must be replaced using the criteria for a replacement system as described in Chapter 19.

103.4 Abandoned Systems: Any system in existence and functioning prior to July 1, 1974 not in compliance with the conditions of Section 103.1.3 must be replaced using the criteria for a replacement system as described in Section 19.

103.5 Replacement structures: A structure is considered to be a replacement structure if: 1) it is used to replace the original structure which was destroyed by fire or natural disaster; or 2) it is exchanged with another structure of similar usage and design flow. A replacement structure may be served by the existing sewage disposal system provided:

(1) **System properly functioning:** The existing system was functioning properly when use of the system ceased; and

(2) **No additional load:** The design flow of the replacement structure does not exceed the design flow of the existing system, except as provided for in Section 1702.0.

(3) **Outside the Shoreland Zone of major waterbodies/courses:** The disposal area is outside the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses and the replacement structure is connected to the existing system and the existing system was designed and installed after July 1, 1974. If the replacement structure is connected to the existing system, and the existing system was designed prior to July 1, 1974, a back-up design must be prepared which meets the replacement system criteria and complies with Section 1703.0, or

(4) **Inside the Shoreland Zone of major waterbodies/courses:** The disposal area is within the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses and the replacement structure is connected to the existing system, and the existing system was designed and installed after July 1, 1974. If the replacement structure is connected to the existing system, and the existing system was designed and installed prior to July 1, 1974, a replacement system must be installed, or the existing system must be determined, by a licensed Site Evaluator, to comply with replacement system criteria.

103.6 Structures not considered as replacement structures: Structures that do not meet the requirements of 103.0 must have disposal systems that meet the requirements of a first time system.

SECTION 104.0 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

104.1 Disposal system permit not required: A disposal system permit is not required for minor repairs or replacements made as needed for the operation of pumps, siphons, aerobic treatment units, sand filters, or accessory equipment, the clearance of a stoppage, or

sealing of a leak in the septic tank, holding tank, pump tank, or building sewer.

104.2 Disposal field modification, repair or alteration: Any modification, repair or alteration of the disposal field, other than the addition of fill requires the decision of the Local Plumbing Inspector as to whether or not a permit is required. If a permit is required, such modification, repair or alteration must be as prescribed by a Maine Registered Professional Engineer or a Maine Licensed Site Evaluator and must be considered a disposal field for permitting purposes.

104.3 Maintenance: All new and existing systems be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition. All service equipment, devices, and safeguards required by this code, or that were required for a system by previous subsurface wastewater disposal codes, must be maintained in good working order when installed, altered, or repaired.

104.4 Property owner's responsibility: The property owner or property owner's agent is responsible for the safe and sanitary maintenance of the system at all times.

SECTION 105.0 APPROVAL

105.1 Approved materials and equipment: All materials, equipment, and devices approved for use by the Department must be made and installed in accordance with the conditions of approval.

105.2 Modifications: When there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the Department may vary or modify such provisions upon a variance request by the applicant. Variances may be granted provided that the intent of this code is observed and public health, safety, and welfare are assured. The variance request for modifications and the final decision of the plumbing inspector or the Department must be in writing and officially recorded with the variance application in the permanent records of the jurisdiction. See Chapter 19.

105.3 Used materials and equipment: Used materials, equipment, and devices may be used provided that they have been reconditioned, tested, and placed in good and proper working condition. Such use must be approved in advance by the plumbing inspector. Septic tanks in place and in good condition, and adequately sized may continue in use when a disposal field is replaced.

105.4 Alternative materials and equipment: The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the use of any material, equipment, or method not specifically prescribed by this code provided the use of any such alternative device has been approved in advance. The Department may approve any such alternative, provided the Department finds that the proposed material, equipment, or method is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code. In addition, it must be shown that the material, equipment, method, or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, durability, and

safety. The Department shall require sufficient technical data to be submitted to substantiate the proposed use of any material or method. If it is determined that the evidence submitted is satisfactory proof of performance for the use intended, its use may be approved, subject to the requirements of this code. The costs of all tests, reports and investigations required under these provisions must be paid by the applicant. To assist in the determination, the Department may accept as supporting data any duly authenticated research reports from approved sources concerning all materials or devices proposed for uses not specifically provided for in this code.

105.5 Prohibition of alternative materials and equipment: The Department may prohibit the use of certain materials, equipment, or methods not specifically prescribed by this code, in the event that the materials, equipment, or methods have not been approved for use by the Department. The Department shall issue any such prohibitions in writing, and shall specify the reason(s) for prohibition of use. Reasons for prohibition of use of certain materials, equipment, or methods may include, but are not limited to, a reasonable expectation that such use would present a threat to public safety, health, and welfare insofar as they are affected by the installation, use, alteration, and/or maintenance of subsurface wastewater disposal systems.

SECTION 106.0 DUTIES AND POWERS OF PLUMBING INSPECTOR

106.1 General: The plumbing inspector shall enforce all the provisions of this code. He or she shall act on any question concerning the method or manner of construction and the materials to be used in the installation of a system, except as may be specifically provided for by other requirements of this code.

106.2 Application for disposal system permits: The plumbing inspector shall receive applications for disposal system permits, issue permits for the installation of systems, inspect the premises for which such disposal system permits have been issued, and enforce compliance with the provisions of this code.

106.3 Notices and orders: The plumbing inspector shall issue all necessary notices or orders pertaining to removal of illegal or unsafe conditions, the requirement of necessary safeguards during construction, and compliance with all requirements of this code for the safety, health, and general welfare of the public.

106.4 Inspections: The plumbing inspector shall make all the inspections required in this code. The plumbing inspector may engage such expert opinions as may be deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that may arise, subject to the approval of the municipal officers.

106.5 Credentials: The plumbing inspector shall carry proper credentials of the office while inspecting any and all systems and premises in the performance of his or her duties.

106.6 Annual report: At least annually, the plumbing inspector shall submit to the municipal officers of the

jurisdiction a written statement of code enforcement activities in form and content as shall be prescribed by such authority.

SECTION 107.0 APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT

107.1 Disposal system permit required: Work must not be started until the plumbing inspector has issued a disposal system permit for the work. Installing a new, expanded, or replacement subsurface wastewater disposal system or any individual components requires a permit except those activities specified in Section 104.0.

107.2 Application for disposal system permit form: An application for a disposal system permit shall be made on forms provided or approved by the Department. Permit applications must be prepared by a licensed site evaluator and requires a site evaluation with the exception of replacement septic tanks and alternative toilets other than pit privies. Such application must include an adequate description of the proposed work. See Section 401.0.

107.3 Description of work: The application for a disposal system permit must contain a description of the type of system, its location, the use of the structure for which the system is requested, and such additional information as may be required by Chapter 4 or by a municipal ordinance.

107.4 Amendments: Amendments to a subsurface wastewater disposal system permit, application for a permit, or any accompanying records may be made at any time before work on the system is complete. Such amendments are deemed part of the original application for the disposal system permit and must be filed therewith.

107.5 Previous designs: A revision in this code not require changes in a subsurface wastewater design provided a permit is obtained for the subsurface wastewater disposal system within two years of the date the disposal system design was signed by the Site Evaluator who completed the design. A design more than two years old and not permitted must be reviewed and updated as necessary by the Site Evaluator prior to the issuance of a permit.

SECTION 108.0 SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMITS

108.1 Action on application for subsurface disposal system permit: The plumbing inspector shall examine, or cause to be examined, all applications for disposal system permits, and amendments thereto after a completed filing. If the application for a disposal system permit does not conform to the requirements of this code (except as allowed by 107.5), and all pertinent laws, ordinances and regulations, including those administered by public water system, or if it is considered incomplete, such application for a disposal system permit must be rejected in writing, stating the reasons therefore. If the plumbing inspector is satisfied that the proposed work conforms to the requirements of this code and all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations, including those administered by public water

supplies, a disposal system permit must be issued as soon as practicable.

108.2 Nontransferable: A disposal system permit is not transferable.

108.3 Previous approvals: A revision in this code must not require changes in a disposal system for which a permit has been issued or otherwise lawfully authorized, prior to the effective date of this code.

108.4 Signature on disposal system permit: The plumbing inspector's signature shall be affixed to every disposal system permit.

108.5 Revocation: The plumbing inspector shall revoke a disposal system permit or approval issued under the provisions of this code in the case of any false statement(s) or misrepresentation(s) of fact in the application for the disposal system permit or on the plans on which the disposal system permit or approval was based.

108.6 Time limit: Any disposal system permit issued must become invalid if the authorized work has not been completed within two years after the issue date of the disposal system permit, unless granted an extension by the local plumbing inspector.

108.7 Departures from the design: Departures from the approved design that become necessary due to circumstances arising during construction and installation must be approved by the site evaluator and/or professional engineer and the plumbing inspector. Such changes must meet or exceed the minimum requirements of this code.

SECTION 109.0 REQUIREMENTS OF DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT

109.1 Payment of fees: A disposal system permit must not be issued until the fee prescribed in Section 110.0 has been paid.

109.2 Compliance with this code: The disposal system permit must be a license to proceed with work and must not be construed as authority to violate, cancel, or set aside any of the provisions of this code, except as specifically stipulated by modification or legally granted variance as described in the application for disposal system permit.

109.3 Compliance with disposal system permit: All work must conform to the plans as shown on the application for which a disposal system permit is issued. This includes any approved amendments thereto.

SECTION 110.0 FEES

110.1 General: A disposal system permit to begin work for new construction or alteration must not be issued until the prescribed disposal system permit fee has been paid.

110.2 Fee schedule: Minimum disposal system permit fees, assessed by municipalities, are listed in Table 110.2. Pursuant to Maine law, municipalities retain 75% of those minimum permit fees and must forward the remaining 25% to the Department. Review fees,

assessed by the Department, are listed in Table 110.3. Note: Municipalities may assess additional permit fees, above those listed in Table 110.2, if authorized to do so by local ordinance. The entire additional permit fees are retained by the municipality.

**TABLE 110.2
MUNICIPAL AND LURC TERRITORIES PERMIT FEE
SCHEDULE**

(Fees to be paid to the municipality/LPI)

Permits for complete disposal system

Engineered system	\$200.00
Non-engineered system	\$100.00
Primitive system (includes one alternative toilet)	\$100.00
Separate grey waste disposal field	\$35.00
Seasonal conversion permit	\$50.00
First Time System Variance	\$20.00

Permits for separate parts of disposal system

Alternative toilet (only)	\$50.00
Disposal field (engineered system)	\$150.00
Disposal field (non-engineered system)	\$75.00
Treatment tank (non-engineered system)	\$50.00
Treatment tank (engineered system)	\$80.00
Holding tank	\$100.00
Other components (complete pump station, piping, other)	\$30.00 □
First Time System Variance	\$20.00

(1) Late permit fee: A person who starts construction without first obtaining a disposal system permit must pay double the permit fee indicated in Table 110.2.

(2) Additional inspection fee: Inspections and fees, in addition to those mandated by these Rules, may be required by the LPI, through adoption of a local ordinance. Additional inspections may also be required by the LPI when work is found to be incomplete at a prearranged inspection, when work is found to be unsatisfactory or when access cannot be obtained at a prearranged date and time. In such cases, additional inspection fees may be assessed by the municipality with the entire additional fees being retained by the municipalities.

**TABLE 110.3
DEPARTMENT REVIEW FEE SCHEDULE**

(Fees to be paid directly to the Department)

Engineered system review - Chapter 11	\$100.00
Formal Conference Fee - Chapter 21	\$50.00
Formal Administrative Hearing Fee - Chapter 21	\$75.00
Minimum lot request review fee	\$50.00
Multi-user review fee - Chapter 12	\$100.00
Licensed Establishment Review	\$20.00
Microfilm Record Search	\$15.00

SECTION 111.0 INSPECTIONS

111.1 Required: It shall be the duty of the plumbing inspector to enforce the provisions of this code and to make such inspections as may be required by this Section.

111.2 Required inspections: Any violations of the approved plans and disposal system permit must be

noted. The holder of the disposal system permit shall be notified of any such discrepancies.

111.3 Plumbing inspector's right of entry: In the discharge of duties, the plumbing inspector, with the consent of the property owner, occupant, or owner's agent, shall have the authority to enter at any reasonable hour any structure or premises in the jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this code. Reference 30-A MRSA §4213. If entry is refused the LPI can seek a court order for entry.

111.4 Department official's right of entry: In the discharge of duties, Department officials, with the consent of the property owner, occupant, or owner's agent, shall have the authority to enter at any reasonable hour any structure or premises to enforce the provisions of this code. If entry is refused the Department can seek a court order for entry.

111.5 Inspection required: The LPI shall make two inspections as follows, using the checklist in section 111.11 as a guide:

(1) After site preparation: An inspection must be made after site preparation to ascertain that the vegetation has been cut and removed in the disposal field area, the area under the disposal field and backfill extensions has been roughened, a transitional horizon has been established, and the erosion and sedimentation control measures are in place.

(2) Prior to covering the system: An inspection must be made after installation of the system components, including stone, pipes or proprietary devices, tanks, hay, filter fabric, and fill beneath and beside of the disposal area but before backfill is placed above the disposal system components. This inspection must include any curtain drains, diversion ditches, berms or other measures outlined on the design to improve the function of the system; and

111.6 Notification required: The plumbing inspector shall be notified at least 24 hours before the system is ready to be inspected.

111.7 Preparation for inspection: When a system is ready for inspection, the installer shall make such arrangements as will enable the plumbing inspector to inspect all parts of the system. The installer shall have present the proper apparatus and equipment for conducting the inspection and shall furnish such assistance as may be necessary in making a proper inspection.

111.8 Covering of work: No part of a system may be backfilled until it has been inspected and approved. If any part is covered before being inspected and approved, it must be uncovered at the discretion of the plumbing inspector and at the expense and risk of the owner.

111.9 Defects in materials and workmanship: If inspection discloses defective material, design, siting, or poor construction that does not conform to the

requirements of this code, the nonconforming parts must be removed, replaced, and re-inspected.

111.10 Installer's statement of compliance: The State shall provide a form (HHE-238A) for the LPI to be given to the homeowner, or the homeowner's agent, at the time of issuing the permit. This form will allow for the installer or inspector, in the case of an engineered system or a multi-user system, to provide a written statement to the owner, or agent, that the system was installed in compliance with this code and the conditions of the permit.

111.11 Inspection checklist. The State shall prepare a form (HHE-238C) that can be used by the LPI and the disposal system installer (contractor) to aid in the proper installation of the disposal system. The checklist may include, but not be limited to items similar to the following:

- Bottom – scarification
- Footprint of system and fill extensions
- Location according to plan (reference points)
- Appropriate backfill material
- Clean stone
- Elevations of tank and disposal area (see language in section 1202.4)
- Elevation of bottom and top of system and/or devices
- Cover material
- Grading and seeding
- Temporary erosion control devices

SECTION 112.0 WORKMANSHIP

112.1 General: All work must be performed, installed, and completed in a workmanlike and acceptable manner commensurate with the specific requirements of this code, or generally accepted practices if not specifically addressed by this code, and the standards referenced herein.

SECTION 113.0 VIOLATIONS

113.1 Unlawful acts: It is unlawful to install, extend, alter, repair, or maintain systems except in conformity with this code.

113.2 Notice of violation: The plumbing inspector shall serve a notice of violation and order on the person responsible for the installation of work: in violation of the provisions of this code; in violation of a detailed statement or a plan approved thereunder; or in violation of a disposal system permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code. Such orders must direct the discontinuance of the illegal action or condition and the abatement of the violation.

113.3 Prosecution: If the notice of violation and order are not complied with promptly, the plumbing inspector shall request the legal counsel of the jurisdiction to institute the appropriate proceedings at law or in equity to restrain, correct, or abate such violation, or to require removal or termination of the unlawful use of any system in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant thereto.

113.4 Penalties: Any person who violates a provision of this code, or who fails to comply with any of the requirements thereof, or who installs work in violation of an approved plan or directive of the plumbing inspector, or of a disposal system permit issued under the provisions of this code, shall be subject to the penalties in Title 30-A MRSA §4452.

SECTION 114.0 STOP WORK ORDER

114.1 Stop work order notice: Upon notice from the plumbing inspector that work is being done contrary to the provisions of this code, such work must be immediately stopped. The stop work order must be in writing and must be given to the owner of the property involved, or to the property owner's agent, or to the person doing the work. It must state the conditions under which the work may be resumed.

114.2 Unlawful continuance: Any person who continues any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as the person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be considered in violation of this code.

SECTION 115.0 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

115.1 Approval: After the required inspection, or, in the case of multiple inspections, when the final inspection indicates the work complies in all respects with this code and the permit application, a certificate of approval shall be issued by the plumbing inspector.

115.2 Thirty (30) day temporary use: Upon request of the holder of a disposal system permit, the plumbing inspector may issue a 30 day temporary authorization of use before the entire work covered by the disposal system permit has been completed. This authorization may be given only if such portion or portions of the system may be put into service safely prior to full completion without endangering health or public welfare.

SECTION 116.0 UNSAFE CONDITIONS

116.1 General: All installations, regardless of type, that are unsanitary or that constitute a hazard to human life, health, or welfare are hereby declared a nuisance and must be abated by repair and rehabilitation or removal.

116.2 Structures: No portion of a structure may be located on any part of a disposal field.

SECTION 117.0 MUNICIPAL RECORDS

117.1 Required: The municipality must keep official records of applications for disposal system permits received, disposal system permits and certificates issued, fees collected, reports of inspections, and notices and orders issued.

117.2 Record retention: The disposal system permit and associated records must be maintained until such time as the realty improvement served by the proposed or existing system is removed or connected to a public sewer.

117.3 Record availability: These records must be available upon request for inspection by personnel of the Department and the public.

117.4 Associated records: The municipality must also maintain and keep on file copies of the following documents:

(1) **Applications:** Applications for disposal system permits and plans and specifications for the construction, installation or alteration of systems, including all forms and data submitted by the applicant;

(2) **Modifications:** Modifications to plans or applications made subsequent to the issuance of a disposal system permit to construct, install, or alter systems;

(3) **Inspections:** Reports of construction inspections made prior to issuance of a certificate of approval for a system;

(4) **Certificates of approval (HHE-238):** Certificates of approval completed for inspections of systems; and

(5) **Malfunctioning systems:** Inspection reports, plans, and specifications for repair or alteration of malfunctioning systems or components of malfunctioning systems.

SECTION 118.0 LOCAL ORDINANCE

118.1 General: The municipality may adopt local ordinances as allowed by MRSA Title 30-A §4211.

118.2 Definition: For the purpose of this code, the term "local ordinance" means any municipal ordinance that is more restrictive than any provision in these Rules.

118.3 No less stringent: The municipality shall not adopt an ordinance that is less stringent than this code.

118.4 Notification: In order for the Department to keep track of local requirements that may differ from the minimum requirements contained herein, any municipality that adopts a local ordinance is requested to send a copy of the ordinance to the Department.

SECTION 119.0 APPROVED SYSTEM USAGE

119.1 General: No system may be used nor any wastewater be directed to any components/system until a certificate of approval has been issued or the plumbing inspector has issued a temporary authorization of use in compliance with Subsection 115.2 of this code.

SECTION 120.0 UNORGANIZED AREAS

120.1 Scope: This Section governs the appointment of plumbing inspectors and the administration of this code in unorganized portions of the State of Maine where there is no local form of government.

120.2 Plumbing inspector appointment: The Department may appoint plumbing inspectors in the unorganized areas. The appointed plumbing inspector is responsible for performing all the administrative and enforcement duties prescribed in this Chapter.

120.3 Lack of plumbing inspector: If a plumbing inspector has not been appointed, the following procedure must be utilized:

(1) Permit issuance: The Department is responsible for performing all the administrative and enforcement duties prescribed in Section 106.0.

(2) Installer's statement of compliance: The State shall provide a form (HHE-238A) for the Site Evaluator to give to the homeowner, or the homeowner's agent, at the time of the site evaluation. The form will allow the installer or inspector, in the case of an engineered system or a multi-user system, to provide a written statement to the owner, or agent, that the system was installed in compliance with this code and the conditions of the permit. This form will then be sent to the Department.

SECTION 121.0 ADVISORY RULING

121.1 Written request: Upon written request the Department may render an advisory ruling with respect to the interpretation and/or applicability of any subsurface wastewater disposal related statute or rule administered by the Department.

121.2 Request address: A request for an advisory ruling must be addressed to the Director, Division of Environmental Health, Department of Health and Human Services, 11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011.

121.3 Contents of request: The request for an advisory ruling must contain sufficient facts for the Department to make a ruling. The Department may request additional information from the party requesting the ruling. Failure to provide such information is cause for the Department to refuse to issue a ruling.

121.4 Refusal to issue ruling: The Department may refuse to issue an advisory ruling if it may harm its interest in any litigation to which it is or may become a party.

121.5 Response time: An advisory ruling must be in writing and issued no more than sixty (60) days from the date when all information necessary for the ruling has been received by the Department.

121.6 Verbal opinions: Verbal opinions do not carry the weight of advisory rulings. They are the opinion of Department staff, without benefit of legal consultation. Verbal opinions may be reversed when presented to the Department as written requests for Advisory Rulings.

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL REGULATIONS

SECTION 200.0 GENERAL

200.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the general regulation of all systems.

SECTION 201.0 AUTHORIZED DESIGNERS

201.1 Non-engineered systems: A site evaluator licensed in Maine shall design non-engineered systems.

201.2 Engineered systems: A site evaluator licensed in Maine shall provide observation hole logs and soil profile descriptions as described in Section 403.0 for engineered systems. A professional engineer, licensed in Maine, shall design engineered systems, and may consult with the site evaluator.

SECTION 202.0 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

202.1 All systems: In designing any system, the site evaluator and/or professional engineer shall take into consideration lot size and configuration, slope, surface drainage, soil characteristics, the presence and depth of limiting horizons within the soil, soil permeability, type of wastes, and the projected design flow.

202.2 Types of wastes: Systems must be designed to receive all wastewater from the structure served except in the following cases:

- (1) **Black or gray wastewaters only:** Separate systems may be designed to receive only gray wastewater, or only black wastewater, as allowed in Chapter 10.
- (2) **Laundry wastes:** Laundry wastes from a single-family dwelling may be discharged into a separate laundry disposal field. See Section 1008.0.
- (3) **Hot tubs:** Hot tubs must not discharge into any disposal system utilized for any other wastewater, but may be discharged into a gray water disposal system.

SECTION 203.0 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

203.1 License Not Required: In accordance with Title 38, MRSA §413, a waste discharge license is not required for the installation, operation or maintenance of a subsurface wastewater disposal system for the subsurface disposal of domestic wastewater or other wastewater from commercial, industrial, or residential sources which is of a similar quality (constituents and strength) or of a lesser pollutant load strength to that of domestic wastewater provided it has been designed and installed in conformance with this code. This includes, but is not limited to, wastewater normally associated with hospitals, restaurants, nursing homes, schools, hotels, motels, and medical, dental, veterinary facilities, and backwash from water treatment systems, provided all pollutants including, but not limited to, radionuclides will

be appropriately and adequately treated, and similar types of wastewater.

203.2 License Required: In accordance with Title 38, MRSA §413, a waste discharge license is required for the installation, operation or maintenance of a subsurface wastewater disposal system for the subsurface disposal of wastewater from commercial, industrial, or residential sources which has constituents unlike that of or is significantly higher strength than that of domestic wastewater and is therefore beyond the jurisdiction of this code. This includes, but is not limited to, wastewater normally associated with abattoirs, commercial car washes, egg washing facilities, and industrial processes.

SECTION 204.0 PROHIBITED

204.1 Discharging prohibited: The use of system cleaners that contain restricted chemical materials is deemed a discharge of industrial wastes and is prohibited. See Section 910.0.

204.2 Chemicals: Chemicals, other than normal household cleaners, must not be disposed of in the disposal field. Examples of prohibited chemicals include paint, paint thinner, commercial grease and oil, darkroom chemicals, etc.

SECTION 205.0 ROOF, FLOOR, AND FOUNDATION DRAINS

205.1 General: Discharges from roof drains, floor drains, and foundation drains may adversely affect a system because of their potential volumes and different pollutant characteristics.

205.2 Roof drains and foundation drains: Roof drains and foundation drains shall not be connected to systems.

205.3 Floor drains: Floor drains may be connected to a subsurface wastewater disposal system if (1) the disposal area is properly sized to handle the potential flow from the drains (2) there is no significant potential for discharge of industrial, hazardous, or toxic liquids or pollutants; (3) the floor drain is necessary for the discharge of wash water or other wastewater which has constituents similar in volume and similar in concentration to domestic wastewater (including animal or vegetable matter, soap solutions, and diluted domestic-use cleaning solutions) or at a lower wastewater strength; and (4) connection to a public sewer is not available. Floor drains must not be connected to a subsurface wastewater disposal system if there is a significant potential for industrial, hazardous or toxic liquids or pollutants (including gasoline, oils and degreasers) to drip, be spilled or washed into the floor drains.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

SECTION 206.0 LARGE CAPACITY CESSPOOLS

206.1 Prohibition: All existing large capacity cesspools must be closed by April 5, 2005. New large capacity cesspools are prohibited.

206.2 Pre-closure Notification: Thirty (30) days prior to closing a large capacity cesspool, the owner or operator must notify the Department of Environmental Protection of his/her intent to close the cesspool. A copy of this notice must be forwarded to the Department of Health and Human Services.

206.3 Closure: A large capacity cesspool must be closed in a manner that prevents movement of contaminated fluid to ground water. The owner or operator must also dispose or otherwise manage any soil, gravel, sludge, liquids or other materials removed from or adjacent to the cesspool in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations.

SECTION 207.0 LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS

207.1 Applicability: This section applies to all establishments licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services utilizing subsurface wastewater disposal.

207.2 Department review required: The local plumbing inspector shall not issue a permit for a new, expanded, or replacement system serving a licensed establishment without prior approval from the Department.

207.3 Conditions requiring review: The following changes to a licensed establishment's status require a review of the subsurface wastewater disposal system by the Department:

- (1) The planned installation of a new, expanded, or replacement system; or
- (2) A planned increase in the licensed establishment's capacity.

207.4 Review Submission: The owner of the establishment shall submit the following items to satisfy the requirements of Section 207.3.

- (1) A clear description of the past, present, and intended future use of the establishment; and;
- (2) A description of any existing subsurface wastewater disposal systems proposed for use; and;
- (3) A copy of the HHE-200 form for any new, expanded, or replacement systems; and
- (4) The review fee listed in Table 110.3 of these rules.

CHAPTER 3

DEFINITIONS

SECTION 300.0 GENERAL

300.1 Scope: Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purpose of this code, have the meanings set forth in the following Sections.

300.2 Interchangeability: Words used in the present tense include the future tense; words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular.

300.3 Terms defined in other codes: Terms not defined in the following Sections must have ascribed to them their ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context may imply.

300.4 Terms not defined: Terms not defined in the following Sections must have ascribed to them their ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context may imply.

SECTION 301.0 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Abutter: One that abuts; specifically, the owner of contiguous property. For purposes of the Subsurface Wastewater Rules, “abutter” is further defined to include that property, which is separated by a right of way and/or within setback requirements between a subsurface wastewater disposal field and a potable water supply; whichever was installed first.

Adjacent wetlands: See work adjacent to wetlands and waterbodies/courses. This is a term applied to soil disturbance activities when located such that sediment from the activity may carry into the wetland or water body; generally a distance of 100 feet. (See Section 1504.0).

Aerobic: A condition in which molecular oxygen is a part of the environment.

Aerobic Treatment Unit: a device to treat domestic wastewater utilizing electric, mechanical, or biological processes.

Alteration: Any change in the physical configuration of an existing system or any of its component parts. This includes the replacement, modification, installation, addition, or removal of system components, or increase in size, capacity, type, or number of one or more components. The term “alter” must be construed accordingly.

Alternative toilet: A device, other than a water closet, designed to treat human waste only. Examples are: privies and composting, chemical, recirculating, incinerating, and vacuum toilets. Portable toilets are not considered Alternative Toilets as they are only for temporary use (see definition of temporary portable toilet).

Anaerobic: A condition in which molecular oxygen is absent from the environment.

Applicant: The person who signs and submits an application for permit to construct, install, or alter a system.

Application for disposal system permit: Abbreviation for subsurface wastewater disposal system permit application, also known as HHE-200 form, HHE-234, etc.

Backfill: Soil material that is suitable for use beneath and beside of the disposal field, including the fill extension. See Section 804.0.

Bedrock: A solid and continuous body of rock, with or without fracture, or a weathered or broken body of rock fragments overlying a solid body of rock.

Bedroom: Any room within a dwelling unit, or any room in an accessory structure to a dwelling unit, that serves primarily as sleeping quarters.

Black wastewater: Wastewater derived from plumbing fixtures or drains that receive excreta supplemented wastewater.

Building drain: That part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system that receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of a building and conveys it to the building sewer. Inside the building, it is considered to be the building drain until it undergoes a change of pitch more than that produced by a 45 degree wye. It extends to a point 2 feet outside the building wall.

Building sewer: That part of the plumbing system that extends from the end of the building drain and conveys its discharge to a public sewer, septic tank and disposal field, or other point of disposal.

Bunkhouse: A detached bedroom having no plumbing; accessory to a single family dwelling for the temporary accommodations of guests of the property owner while the owner is an occupant of the principal dwelling.

Certificate of approval: A certificate signed by the plumbing inspector stating that a system has been installed in compliance with the disposal system permit application and this code.

Cesspool, large capacity: A cesspool that receives solely domestic wastewater and has the capacity to serve 20 or more persons per day or dispose of 2,000 gallons or more of wastewater per day. This definition includes multiple-dwelling, community or regional cesspools but does not apply to single-family residential cesspools.

Clay: A particle size category consisting of mineral particles that are smaller than 0.002 millimeters in equivalent spherical diameter; also, a soil texture class having more than 40% clay, less than 45% sand, and less than 40% silt.

CMR: Abbreviation for Code of Maine Rules. For example, 10-144 CMR 241.9 identifies Section 9 of Chapter 241 of the Rules of the Maine Center for

DEFINITIONS

Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules.

Coastal sand dune: Sand and gravel deposits within a marine beach system including, but not limited to: beach berms, frontal dunes, dune ridges, back dunes, and other sand and gravel areas deposited by wave or wind action. Coastal sand dune systems may extend into coastal wetlands.

Code: Code means the “Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules”.

Construct: To build, install, fabricate, or put together on a site one or more components of a system.

Contour: An imaginary line of constant elevation on the ground surface. The corresponding line on a map is called a “contour line”.

Curtain drain: A trench to intercept laterally moving ground water and divert it away from a disposal field.

Department: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

Design flow: The wastewater flow that may reasonably be expected to be discharged from a residential, commercial, or institutional facility on any day of operation as determined in Chapter 5.

Disposal field: An individual subsurface wastewater disposal system component, consisting of a closed excavation made within soil or fill material to contain disposal field stone and distribution pipes or approved proprietary devices for the disposal of septic tank effluent. The excavation is typically in the form of stone trenches or stone beds with or without proprietary devices included in the design.

Disposal field, engineered: A disposal field, or series of fields, which is a component of an engineered system.

Disposal field, lined: A disposal field designed with a filtration envelop or layer of backfill placed directly beneath and adjacent to the field. Typically used in profile 6 and 11 soils.

Disposal field, peat: A disposal field utilizing peat that is designed and installed in accordance with Chapter 13.

Disposal field, primitive: See definition, “Primitive disposal field”.

Disposal field, separated laundry: See definition, “Separated laundry disposal field”.

Disposal field, trench: A disposal field utilizing disposal field stone in which each run of distribution pipe is separated by either native soil or fill, and which is sized and designed in accordance with subsections 600.6, 805.2.2, and 808.1.

Disposal field stone: Gravel or crushed stone, that is clean and free of dust, ashes or clay, and meeting the requirements prescribed in the Subsection 805.2.3.

Disposal field infiltration area: The total disposal field infiltration area available to accept the septic tank

effluent. The infiltration area includes the bottom and side wall below the invert of the distribution piping.

Disposal field infiltration area, effective: The standard stone filled disposal field infiltration area or the equivalent various “approved” proprietary disposal devices.

Disposal system: See definition, “Subsurface wastewater disposal system”.

Disposal system permit: Written authorization issued by the plumbing inspector to construct a specific system. This authorization is attached to the application for disposal system permit.

Distribution box: A device that receives septic tank effluent and distributes such effluent in equal portions to two or more disposal fields or distribution pipes within a disposal field.

Distribution pipe: A perforated pipe or one of several perforated pipes used to carry and distribute septic tank effluent throughout the disposal field.

Distribution network: Two or more interconnected distribution pipes.

Diversion box: A device that permits alternating use of two or more disposal fields or the diversion of septic tank effluent.

Diversion ditch: A ditch to intercept and divert surface water runoff around and away from a subsurface wastewater disposal system.

Domestic wastewater: Any wastewater produced by ordinary living uses, including liquid waste containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution, or the water-carried waste from the discharge of water closets, laundry tubs, washing machines, sinks, dishwashers, or other source of water-carried wastes of human origin.

Dosing tank: A watertight receptacle located between the septic tank and disposal field equipped with a pump or siphon, used to store and deliver doses of septic tank effluent to the disposal field.

Drainage area: An area from which the surface runoff is carried away by a single watercourse.

Drainage ditch: A manmade ditch receiving and diverting surface runoff or subsurface water. This does not include diversion of a naturally occurring water body.

Drop box: A wastewater distribution device where the elevation of the incoming distribution line is higher than that of the outgoing distribution line.

Drop manhole: A manhole installed in a sewer where the elevation of the incoming sewer is considerably above that of the outgoing sewer.

Dwelling unit: Any structure or portion of a structure, permanent or temporary in nature, used or proposed to be used as a residence seasonally or throughout the year.

Effluent line (gravity): The pipe(s) used to convey septic tank effluent from the tank to the disposal field(s),

including non-perforated pipes going from a distribution box or other flow splitting device to a disposal field or multiple disposal fields.

Elevation reference point: An easily-identifiable point or object of constant elevation for establishing the relative elevation of observation holes and elevation of the components of the system.

Engineer: See Professional Engineer.

Engineered system: See System, Engineered.

Equivalent spherical diameter: The equivalent spherical diameter of a particle is the diameter of a sphere that has a volume equal to the volume of the particle.

Expansion: The enlargement or change in use of a structure using an existing subsurface wastewater disposal system that brings the total structure into a classification that requires larger subsurface wastewater disposal system components. (See Chapter 17, Section 1702). (Reference 30A MRSA § 4211(3)).

Experimental system: See "System, Experimental"

Factor, limiting: See "Horizon, limiting".

Fill material: Any soil, rock, or other material placed within an excavation or over the surface of the ground. The term "fill" is not equivalent in meaning to the term "backfill".

Finish grade: The surface of the ground after completion of final grading.

Flood plain, coastal and estuary: The land area within the V-Zone indicated by the Federal Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) or below the 10-year storm surge elevation, whichever is more restrictive. The 10-year storm surge elevation in Maine is approximately the 8-foot National Geodetic Vertical Datum.

Flood plain, riverine: The land area within the 10-year flood zone indicated by Federal Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) or other sources acceptable to the Department in the absence of Federal Insurance Rate Maps. Note: Some municipalities restrict new development in the 100-year flood plain.

Gpd: Gallons per day.

Gravel: A rounded or semi-rounded rock fragment that is between 2 millimeters and 3 inches in diameter.

Gray wastewater: That portion of the wastewater generated within a residential, commercial, or institutional facility that does not include discharges from water closets and urinals.

Grease interceptor: A device in which the grease in wastewater leaving a structure is intercepted, congealed by cooling, accumulated, and stored for pump-out and disposal.

Grease trap: A device designed to retain grease from a single plumbing fixture.

Great pond: Any inland body of water that, in a natural state, has a surface area in excess of 10 acres and any

inland body of water artificially formed or increased that has a surface area in excess of 30 acres.

Ground water: Water below the land surface in a zone of soil saturation.

Ground water aquifer: A rock or gravel formation that contains significant recoverable quantities of water that is likely to provide drinking water supplies.

Ground water table: The upper surface of a zone of saturation.

H-20 wheel load: A wheel loading configuration as defined by the American Association of State Highway Officials for a standardized 10-ton-per-axle truck.

Hazardous waste: Any chemical substance or material, whether gas, solid, or liquid, that is designated as hazardous by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the United States Resource Recovery and Conservation Act, Public Law 94-580.

HHE-200: Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System Application. A three-page form used by Licensed Site Evaluators for designing septic systems.

HHE-204: Replacement System Variance Request. This form is to be attached to an HHE-200 for all replacement systems requiring a variance.

HHE-215: First Time System Variance Request. This form is to be attached to an HHE-200 for all first time systems requiring a variance.

HHE-233: Holding Tank Application: The application/ agreement form for holding tanks which is required for all holding tank requests.

HHE-234: Notice of Intent to Install a Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System. This form is used to record a system design with the County Registry of Deeds.

HHE-236: Application for Variance to the Minimum Lot Size Law Requirements. This form is to be filed with all pertinent data for requests for waivers to the Minimum Lot Size Law.

HHE-238A: Statement of Compliance. A form to be used by a homeowner or homeowner's agent to obtain a written statement from the disposal system installer regarding installation compliance.

HHE-300: Holding Tank Deed Covenant. A form to be filed at the County Registry of Deeds when a residential structure is to be served by a holding tank.

HHE-304: Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Variance Deed Covenant. A form which may be required for any property which obtains additional points for lot size prior to the final approval of a First Time System Variance. The form would require filing at the County Registry of Deeds.

HHE-306: Well Setback Release Form. A form to be filed at the County Registry of Deeds indicating a reduced setback distance between a well and a disposal field.

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Holding tank: A closed, watertight structure designed and used to receive and store wastewater or septic tank effluent. A holding tank does not discharge wastewater or septic tank effluent to surface or groundwater or onto the surface of the ground. Holding tanks are designed and constructed to facilitate ultimate disposal of wastewater at another site.

Horizon, limiting: Any soil horizon or combination of soil horizons, within the soil profile or any parent material below the soil profile, that limits the ability of the soil to provide treatment or disposal of septic tank effluent. Limiting horizons include bedrock, hydraulically restrictive soil horizons and parent material, excessively coarse soil horizons and parent material, and the seasonal groundwater table.

Horizon, soil: A layer within a soil profile differing from the soil above or below it in one or more soil morphological characteristics. The characteristics of the layer include the color, texture, rock-fragment content, structure, and consistence of each parent soil material.

Horizontal reference point: A stationary, easily identifiable point to which horizontal dimensions can be related.

Hydrology: The science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of water.

Install: To assemble, put in place, or connect components of a system in a manner that permits their use by the occupants of the structure served.

Invert: The floor, bottom, or lowest portion of the internal cross section of a closed conduit, used with reference to pipes or fittings conveying wastewater or septic tank effluent.

Limited operation hunting camp: A structure or group of structures established to lodge sportspersons for the specific purpose of hunting or fishing. The camp's use is restricted to a period not to exceed four consecutive weeks.

Local plumbing inspector: Also L.P.I. An inspector appointed by the municipality and certified by the State with the responsibilities delineated by Title 30-A MRSA §4221, Title 30-A MRSA §4451, and these Rules.

Malfunctioning system: A system that is not operating or is not functioning properly based on the following indicators: ponding or outbreak of wastewater or septic tank effluent onto the surface of the ground; seepage of wastewater or septic tank effluent into parts of buildings below ground; back-up of wastewater into the building being served that is not caused by a physical blockage of the internal plumbing; or contamination of nearby water wells or waterbodies/courses.

May: A verb denoting optional action.

Mottles, drainage: Soil color patterns caused by alternating saturated and unsaturated soil conditions. When saturation occurs while soil temperatures are above biological zero (41°F), iron and manganese will become reduced and exhibit subdued shades such as grays, greens, or blues. When unsaturated conditions

occur, oxygen combines with iron and manganese to develop brighter soil colors such as yellow and reddish brown. Soils that experience seasonally fluctuating water tables usually exhibit alternating streaks, spots, or blotches of bright oxidized colors with reduced dull, or subdued, colors. The longer a soil is saturated and in an anaerobic condition, the greater is the percentage of color that will be subdued. Soils that are never or rarely exposed to free oxygen are considered totally reduced or gleyed.

Mottling: A color pattern observed in soil consisting of blotches or spots of contrasting color. The term "mottle" refers to an individual blotch or spot.

Multi-family dwelling unit: A structure or realty improvement intended for two or more dwelling units.

No practical alternative: Due to site conditions, lot configuration, or other constraints, the replacement, repair or alteration of an existing system, in full compliance with this code, is not achievable without the employment of extraordinary measures or cost.

Normal high water line - riverine, stream, lake, and pond: That line on the shore or bank that is apparent from visible markings or changes in the character of soil, rock, or vegetation resulting from submersion or the prolonged erosion action of the water.

Normal high water line - coastal, estuary, and tidal: The shoreline at the spring tide elevation, during the maximum spring tide level as identified in tide tables published by NOAA.

Nuisance: Any source of filth, odor, or probable cause of sickness.

Observation hole: An excavation made into the ground to observe and classify soil conditions in accordance with Chapter 4, and depending on the excavation method, is a test pit, test boring, or probe.

Other components: Devices, other than pipe, that receive wastewater including lift stations, distribution boxes, sealed vault privies, underdrain pre-filters, grease interceptors, and drop boxes.

Person: An individual or his heirs, executor, administrator, assign, or agents; a firm, corporation, association, organization, municipal or quasi-municipal corporation, or government agency. Singular includes plural and male includes female.

Pit privy: An alternative toilet, consisting of a permanent structure placed over an excavation where human waste is deposited.

Plumbing inspector: See Local Plumbing Inspector.

Potable water: Water that does not contain objectionable pollution, contamination, minerals, or ineffective agents, is satisfactory for human consumption, and is used for human consumption.

Pre-existing natural ground surface: The former level of the ground surface in an area of disturbed ground.

Primitive disposal field: A minimal disposal field designed specifically to treat gray wastewater originating from a non-pressurized water supply.

Primitive system: See definition, "System, primitive".

Principal or year-round dwelling unit: A dwelling which existed on December 31, 1981, and which was used as a principal or year-round residence during the period from 1977 to 1981. Evidence of use as a principal or year-round residence includes, but is not limited to: the listing of that dwelling as an occupant's legal residence for the purpose of voting, filing a state tax return, or automobile registration, or the occupancy of that dwelling for a period exceeding 7 months in any calendar year.

Private Water Supply, Non-Potable: A drilled well, dug well, well point, spring, or any interconnected combination thereof, used to supply water for any purposes other than human drinking, cooking, bathing, or laundering to a residential or commercial structure.

Private Water Supply, Potable: A drilled well, dug well, well point, spring, or any interconnected combination thereof, designated by its owner to supply water for human drinking, cooking, bathing, or laundering to a residential or commercial structure that does not meet the definition of a public water system.

Probe: A penetration into the ground usually to only determine depth to refusal or bedrock. Typical methods include the use of a steel rod or bar. A probe by itself is insufficient to classify soil pursuant to Chapter 4.

Professional engineer: A person licensed to practice professional engineering in Maine, pursuant to Title 32 Chapter 19.

Proprietary disposal device: A device utilized in disposal fields as an alternative to a disposal field with a bedding of stone and one or more distribution pipes.

Public sewer: Municipal or quasi-municipal sewerage system.

Pump Tank: A watertight vessel receiving either untreated or treated domestic wastewater for transport to a disposal area by mechanical means.

Realty improvement: Any new residential, commercial, or industrial structure, or other premises, including but not limited to condominiums, garden apartments, town houses, mobile homes, stores, office buildings, restaurants, and hotels, not served by an approved public sewer, the useful occupancy of which will require the installation or construction of systems. Each dwelling unit in a proposed multiple-family dwelling unit or each commercial unit in a commercial structure must be construed to be a separate realty improvement.

Recreation/Sporting Camp: A structure or group of structures established to lodge sportspersons for the specific purpose of hunting and/or fishing. These camps have the potential to operate year-round with a variety of use patterns.

Repair: Minor repairs or replacement as required for the operation of pumps, siphons, or accessory equipment,

for the clearance of a stoppage, or to seal a leak in the septic tank, holding tank, pump tank, or building sewer.

Replacement system: See definition, "System, replacement".

Residence: See definitions, "Dwelling unit" and "Realty improvement".

River: A free flowing body of water from that point at which it provides drainage for a watershed of 25 square miles to its mouth.

Rock fragment: A fragment of rock, contained within the soil that is greater than 2 millimeters in equivalent spherical diameter or that is retained on a 2 millimeter sieve.

Sand: A particle size category consisting of mineral particles that are between 0.05 and 2 millimeters in equivalent spherical diameter. Also a soil textural class having 85% or more sand along with a maximum of 15% silt and clay. The percentage of silt may not be more than 15 times the percentage of clay.

Saturated: A condition in which all easily drained voids between the soil particles are temporarily or permanently filled with water.

Scum: A mass of wastewater solids floating on the surface of the wastewater and buoyed up by entrained gas, grease, or other substances. The term "scum layer" must be construed accordingly.

Seasonal conversion permit: Written authorization issued by the plumbing inspector to allow the conversion of a seasonal dwelling unit located in a shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses to year-round use.

Seasonal dwelling unit: A dwelling which existed on December 31, 1981, and which was not used as a principal or year-round residence during the period from 1977 to 1981.

Seasonal groundwater table: The upper limit of seasonal groundwater. This zone may be determined by identification of soil drainage mottling, the MAPSS (Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists) drainage key, or by monitoring.

Separate laundry disposal field: A separate disposal field sized to handle the laundry wastewater from single-family dwelling units.

Septage: All sludge, scum, liquid, or any other material removed from a septic tank or disposal field.

Septic tank: A watertight receptacle that receives the discharge of untreated wastewater. It is designed and installed so as to permit settling of settleable solids from the liquid, retention of the scum, partial digestion of the organic matter, and discharge of the liquid portion into a disposal field.

Septic tank effluent: Primary treated wastewater discharged through the outlet of a septic tank and/or an approved sand, peat, or similar filter.

Septic tank filter: A device designed to keep solids and grease in a septic tank.

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Serial distribution: A method of distributing septic tank effluent between or within a series of disposal fields so that each successive disposal field receives septic tank effluent only after the preceding disposal fields have become full to the bottom of the invert.

Setback distance: The shortest horizontal distance between a component of a system and certain site features or structures.

Shall: A verb denoting mandatory action under all circumstances (notwithstanding state and local waivers).

Should: A verb denoting recommended action under certain circumstances.

Shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses area: All land area within 250 feet horizontal distance of the normal high-water line of any great pond, river, non-forested wetlands greater than 10 acres or salt water body; or within 75 feet horizontal distance of the normal high-water line of a stream or as designated by a municipality.

Significant wildlife habitat: Habitat for species appearing in the official state or federal list of endangered or threatened animal species, high and moderate value deer wintering areas and travel corridors, seabird nesting islands, significant vernal pool habitat, high and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitat, including nesting and feeding areas, and shorebird nesting feeding and staging areas, as defined in 38 MRSA §480-B(10).

Silt: A particle size category consisting of mineral particles that are between 0.002 and 0.05 millimeters in equivalent spherical diameter. It also means a soil textural class having 80% or more of silt and 12% or less of clay.

Single-family dwelling unit: A structure or realty improvement intended for single-family use.

Site evaluation: The practice of investigating, evaluating, and reporting the basic soil and site conditions that apply to wastewater treatment and disposal along with a system design in compliance with this code.

Sludge: A relatively dense accumulation of wastewater solids that settle to the bottom of a septic tank. These solids are relatively resistant to biological decomposition and collect in the septic tank over a period of time. The term "sludge layer" must be construed accordingly.

Soil: The outermost surface layer of the earth. It is made up of individual soil bodies, each with its own individual characteristics. In places, soil has been modified or even made by people. It contains living matter and is capable of supporting plants out-of-doors.

Soil color: The soil color and Munsell color designation determined by comparison of the moist soil with color chips contained in a Munsell soil color book.

Soil consistence: The resistance, in place, of a soil horizon to penetration by a soil probe.

Soil profile: A vertical cross section of the undisturbed soil showing the characteristic soil horizontal layers or soil horizons that have formed as a result of the combined effects of parent material, topography, climate, biological activity, and time.

Soil saturation: The state when all the pores in the soil are filled with water. Water will flow from saturated soils into an observation hole.

Soil texture: The relative proportions of sand, silt, and clay.

Stone: A rock fragment that is rounded or semi-rounded in shape and greater than 10 inches in diameter.

Stormwater buffer zone: A vegetated, non-lawn area or areas located downgradient from a project that serves to store and remove pollutants from stormwater runoff flowing from a project, as defined in Appendix F, Stormwater Management Rules, 06-096 CMR 500).

Stormwater treatment structures: Structures that provide some form of stormwater quality treatment through physical, chemical, or biological treatment processes. These structures include stormwater infiltration systems or basins, detention basins, wetponds, retention ponds, soil filters, underdrained swales, underdrained outlets, and similar structures.

Stream: A free-flowing body of water from the outlet of a great pond or the confluence of two perennial streams (as depicted on the most recent edition of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute topographical map or, if not available, a 15 minute topographic map) to the point where the body of water becomes a river.

Substantial compliance: A term and concept for regulatory review in the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses stated in 30A MRSA §4211. Used to define application of requirements in one time expansions or conversion from seasonal to year round use of structures. For the purpose of these rules, substantial compliance means a reduction of the setback and soil requirements for first time systems as found in Table 600.4 and Table 700.4.

Subsurface wastewater disposal system: Any system designed to dispose of waste or wastewater on or beneath the surface of the earth; including, but not limited to: septic tanks; disposal fields; grandfathered cesspools; holding tanks; pretreatment filter, piping, or any other fixture, mechanism, or apparatus used for those purposes; does not include any discharge system licensed under Title 38 MRSA §414, any surface wastewater disposal system, or any municipal or quasi-municipal sewer or wastewater treatment system.

Sustained slope: A change in elevation where the referenced percent grade is substantially maintained or exceeded throughout the measured area, which for the purposes of this code is from a disposal field to a protected resource (wetland or waterbody/course).

System: See definition, "Subsurface wastewater disposal system".

System cleaner: Any solid or liquid material intended or used primarily for the purpose of cleaning, treating, degreasing, unclogging, disinfecting, or deodorizing any part of a system. These do not include those liquid or solid products intended or used primarily for manual cleaning, scouring, treating, deodorizing, or disinfecting the surfaces of common plumbing fixtures. See Section 910.0.

System, engineered: Any subsurface wastewater disposal system designed, installed, and operated as a single unit to treat and dispose of 2,000 gallons of wastewater per day or more; or any system designed to dispose of wastewater with a combined BOD₅ and total suspended solids concentration greater than 1,400 mg/L.

System, experimental: Any subsurface wastewater disposal system, including components thereof, designed upon unproven concepts; processes otherwise untried in Maine; or field applications of processes developed under controlled research conditions.

System, first time: The first system designed to serve a specific structure; a new system.

System, limited: A system consisting of an alternative toilet, and a septic tank and disposal field handling only gray wastewater originating from elevated storage tanks or cisterns, of no more than 1,000 gallons capacity, or portable pumps, among other non-conventional pressurized water supplies.

System, multi-user: For the purposes of this code, multi-user disposal systems serve, or are designed to serve, three or more structures under different ownerships. See Chapter 12.

System, non-conforming: A system that does not conform to the location, design, construction, or installation requirements in this code.

System, non-engineered: Any system designed, installed, and operated as a single unit to treat and dispose of less than 2,000 gallons of wastewater per day.

System, primitive: A system consisting of a primitive disposal field and an alternative toilet.

System, replacement: A system designed to replace an existing system, an overboard discharge, or any ground surface discharge, without any increase in water usage, except as allowed in Section 1702.0.

Test boring: A narrow observation hole drilled into the ground such that soil strata or horizons can only be observed and measured by the extraction of soil samples. Typical methods include the use of a hand-auger or bucket auger.

Test pit: An observation hole dug into the ground such that soil strata or horizons at the sides of the hole are easily observed and measured in place. Typical methods include the use of a hand shovel or backhoe.

Temporary portable toilet: A prefabricated toilet designed for temporary use, typically at social functions,

work sites, outdoor gatherings, etc. No plumbing permit nor site evaluation is required.

Treatment Tank: For setback purposes a treatment tank is any septic tank, vault privy, holding tank, or aerobic treatment unit.

Unit: See dwelling unit.

Unorganized area: An area subject to the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission under Title 12, Chapter 206-A.

Variance: Written authorization that permits some act or condition not otherwise permitted by this code.

Value: The relative lightness or intensity of a color; one of the three variables of soil color defined within the Munsell system of classification.

Vault privy: An alternative toilet that retains human waste in a sealed vault.

Vernal pool: A natural, temporary to semi-permanent body of water, also known as a seasonal forest pool, occurring in a shallow depression that typically fills during the spring or fall and may dry during the summer. Vernal pools have no permanent inlet and no viable populations or predatory fish, and may provide the primary breeding habitat for wood frogs, spotted salamanders, blue-spotted salamanders, and fairy shrimp, as well as valuable habitat for other plants and wildlife, including rare, threatened, and endangered species.

Vernal pool, significant: Vernal pools whose significance is determined by the number and type of pool-breeding amphibian egg masses in a pool, or the presence of fairy shrimp, or use by threatened or endangered species, as specified in Section 9(B) of the Significant Wildlife Habitat Rules (06-096 CMR 335).

Wastewater: Any domestic wastewater, or other wastewater from commercial, industrial, or residential sources which has constituents similar to that of domestic wastewater. This term specifically excludes hazardous or toxic wastes and materials.

Wastewater discharge license: A wastewater discharge license issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection under Title 38 MRSA §414.

Wastewater ejector: A device to elevate and/or pump untreated wastewater to a public sewer, septic tank, or other means of disposal.

Water body: A natural or artificial surface depression having standing or flowing water in excess of 250 square feet. The term water body includes, but is not limited to: natural and artificial lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, brooks, swamps, marshes, bogs and tidal marshes.

Water course: A channel created by the action of surface water and characterized by the lack of upland vegetation or the presence of aquatic vegetation and by the presence of a bed devoid of top soil, containing waterborne deposits or exposed soil, parent material or bedrock. It usually discharges into a larger water body

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and has a definite channel, bed, banks and high water mark.

Water body/course, major: Any waterbody or water course depicted on a United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute map, or a 15 minute map if a 7.5 minute map is not compiled.

Water body/course, minor: Any water body or water course that is not a major water course. This does not include man-made ditches, except where a ditch is dug as a diversion to a natural water course.

Well, public water supply: A well supplying water to a public water system. A public water system furnishes water to at least 25 individuals at least 60 days a year, or has at least 15 service connections, or bottles water for sale.

Wetland, coastal: All tidal and sub-tidal lands; all areas with vegetation present that is tolerant of salt water and occurs primarily in a salt water or estuarine habitat; and any swamp, marsh, bog, beach, flat or contiguous lowland that is subject to tidal action during the highest tide level for the year in which the activity is proposed as identified in tide tables published by the National Ocean Service. Coastal wetlands may include portions of coastal sand dunes.

Wetland, freshwater: Freshwater swamps, marshes, bogs, or similar areas that have a predominance of hydric soils and that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and for a duration sufficient to support, and which under normal circumstances, do support, a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils. A freshwater wetland may contain inclusions of land that do not conform to the requirements of this definition.

Wetland, of special significance: All coastal wetlands and great ponds, and freshwater wetlands with one or more of, the following characteristics:

1. Contains critically imperiled or imperiled communities as defined by the Natural Areas Program.
2. Contains significant wildlife habitat, as defined by 38 MRSA §480-B(10).
3. Located within 250 feet of a coastal wetland.
4. Located within 250 feet of the normal high water line, and within the same watershed, of any lake or pond classified as GPA under 38 MRSA §465-A.
5. Under normal circumstances, contains at least 20,000 square feet of aquatic vegetation, emergent marsh vegetation, or open water, unless the 20,000 or more square-foot area is the result of one or more artificial ponds or impoundments.
6. Is inundated with floodwater during a 100-year flood event based on flood insurance maps produced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other site-specific information.
7. Is or contains peatlands, except that a previously-mined peatland, or portion thereof, may not be a wetland of special significance, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection.

8. Located within 25 feet of a river, stream, or brook.

Work started: The work has started when any construction directly associated with the system's or system component's installation has begun.

CHAPTER 4

SITE EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 400.0 GENERAL

400.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the evaluation of and requirements for system sites.

400.2 General: The selection of a site for each system is based upon a licensed site evaluator's evaluation of those site characteristics that may affect the functioning of the system. Each system (and every part thereof) must be sited and designed so that, with adequate installation and maintenance, it will function in a satisfactory manner and will not create a nuisance or source of foulness, pose a threat to public health or safety or to the environment, or otherwise adversely affect the quality of surface water or groundwater.

400.3 When a site evaluation is required: The completion of a HHE-200 Form is required in order to obtain a permit for the following:

- a) All first-time subsurface wastewater disposal systems;
- b) All replacement subsurface wastewater disposal systems;
- c) All expanded subsurface wastewater disposal systems;
- d) The installation of any new subsurface wastewater disposal system component; or
- e) The replacement of any existing subsurface wastewater disposal system component, except for a treatment tank, or as allowed by Section 104.0 Repairs and Maintenance.

400.4 Suitable soil conditions: A disposal field must be located upon soils with the following minimum depths to limiting factors:

(1) All systems located outside the shoreland zone area of major water bodies/courses must be located on soils with a minimum depth to seasonal groundwater table or hydraulically restrictive horizon of 9 inches and a minimum depth to bedrock of 9 inches. See Tables 600.2, and 600.3.

(2) All systems located within the shoreland zone area of major water bodies/courses must be located on soils with a minimum depth to seasonal groundwater table or hydraulically restrictive horizon of 15 inches and a minimum depth to bedrock of 15 inches. See Table 600.2, 600.3, and 600.4.

400.5 Setback distances: For disposal system setback distances see Chapter 7 and Tables 700.1, 700.2, 700.3 and 700.4.

400.6 Soil profile and condition: The soil profile and condition used for the design of a disposal field must be based upon original soils at the site, except when the fill is considered as equivalent to original soils, as provided for in Section 405.0. The soil profile and condition used for the design of a disposal field must be representative of the most limiting conditions beneath all disposal

fields. In addition, the soil conditions beneath the down slope fill material extensions for engineered disposal fields must be evaluated and reported.

400.7 Location of the system: A system should be located entirely on property owned or controlled by the owner of the system.

(1) Private property: The owner of a system may locate the system or components partially or completely on other private property, provided the property owners execute an easement in perpetuity for the construction, operation, replacement, and maintenance of the system, giving the system's owner authorization to cross any land or right-of-way between the two parcels. The easement must be filed and cross-referenced in the Registry of Deeds and the municipality's office prior to issuance of a disposal system permit. The easement must provide sufficient buffer around the disposal field and fill material extensions for future replacement and maintenance of the system.

(2) Public property: The owner of the proposed system may locate the system or components partially or completely on abutting public property, provided the entity controlling access to the property executes a letter of no objection giving the system's owner authorization for the construction, operation, replacement, and maintenance of the system,

400.8 Slope: The slope beneath a disposal field site must not exceed 20% and must accommodate the required fill material extension within 100' of the disposal field. (See footnotes in Table 700.2, 700.3 and 700.4).

400.9 Surface runoff: The disposal field site must not be subject to the accumulation of surface runoff. The property owner may utilize surface water diversions, provided they are installed as prescribed by the site evaluator.

400.10 Existing subsurface groundwater drains: Ground that contains subsurface ground water drainage systems or the remnants of abandoned subsurface groundwater drainage systems may be unsuitable for the installation of a disposal field. If determined to be a problem this may be corrected by removing the ground water drains or permanently sealing the outlets of the groundwater drainage system.

SECTION 401.0 APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT

401.1 Contents: Applications for permits to install disposal systems must include the following information:

401.2 Observation hole logs: A detailed description of the soil profile and condition, pursuant to Section 403.0;

401.3 Soil Profile/Condition and Design Classes: The soil profile/condition and design classes, classified pursuant to Table 600.1;

SITE EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

401.4 Design flows: The projected design flow of wastewater and method of calculation;

401.5 Elevations: The elevation of the bottom of each disposal field, the top of the distribution pipes or proprietary disposal devices within each disposal field, the original grade at the highest point along the uphill edge of each disposal field, and the existing ground elevation of the four corners of each disposal field. The number of ground surface elevation measurements taken within and around a disposal field must be sufficient to adequately determine the required elevation of the disposal field and the extent of the associated fill material extensions;

401.6 Scaled plan: The site plan must be drawn at a scale that clearly depicts the following site features that directly affect the system design and compliance with this code within at least a 100 foot radius around systems with design flows less than 1,000 gallons per day, 200 foot radius around systems between 1,000 and 1,999 gallons per day and at least a 300 foot radius around engineered systems (systems greater than 1,999 gallons per day).

(1) **Location of system:** The location of the proposed system including, but not limited to, disposal fields, pump/dosing tanks, distribution pipes, fill material extensions with their shoulders and limits; and septic tanks and grease interceptors shall have a "no lower than" elevation necessary to avoid pumping to the disposal area shown. The geodetic latitude and longitude of the disposal field center, expressed as degrees, minutes, and seconds to an accuracy of ± 30 feet and referenced to in the NAD 83 datum, must be included on all HHE-200 forms, effective January 1, 2006.

(2) **Property boundaries:** The boundaries of the lot as indicated by the property owner;

(3) **Existing manmade features:** Locations of existing and proposed structures, roadways, water wells and disposal fields on the same lot and on abutting or neighboring lots to show compliance with the setbacks in Tables 700.1, 700.2, 700.3, and 700.4.

(4) **Water bodies:** Location of all surface water bodies, natural and artificial, and all springs;

(5) **Surface water diversions:** Location of existing and proposed surface water diversions;

(6) **Observation hole locations:** Locations of all observation holes;

(7) **Wetlands:** The boundaries of any potential wetland area as prescribed by Chapter 15;

(8) **Depths of fill material:** Depths of fill material required, and limits of all fill extensions;

(9) **Elevation Reference Point:** The elevation and location of a system reference point set at elevation zero and located outside the fill extension areas (preferably within 100 feet of the field). Elevation Reference Points must be referenced to an easily

located, reasonably-expected-to-be-permanent feature, for example, a fire hydrant, a surveying monument, a structure, etc. Elevations must be given in inches above or below the ERP (Elevation Reference Point) except for large systems, those greater than 1,000 GPD, which may use a reference point set to the datum for the entire project and may use elevations in feet and decimal.

(10) **System ties:** three measurements from two or more known horizontal reference points or two measurements from one horizontal reference point with compass bearings for each horizontal measurement, to a minimum of two proposed disposal field corners. System ties must be located outside the fill extension areas and preferably within 100 feet of the disposal field(s).

(11) **Staked Corners:** All four corners of the disposal field must be staked by the site evaluator and/or engineer. Wooden stakes or wire flags are recommended to use as stakes.

(12) **Proprietary Products:** The Site Evaluator shall clearly indicate on the HHE-200 form or on an attachment to same, his or her relationship with a company or concern that sells or distributes proprietary devices. The intent of this section is to insure disclosure to the homeowner.

(13) **Cross-section diagram:** Cross-section diagrams must be drawn for each proposed disposal field at a scale that clearly depicts the following features: original grade, height and width of disposal field stone or proprietary devices, pipes and on-center spacing, depths of fill material required, fill crown slope and shoulders, and limits of all fill extensions.

401.7 Applicable Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations: The completed HHE-200 Form must conform to all provisions of applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations, including those administered by public water systems.

SECTION 402.0 LOCATION, DEPTH, AND MINIMUM NUMBER OF OBSERVATION HOLES

402.1 General: Because Maine soil conditions can change dramatically within a few feet, more than one observation hole is often necessary to allow a site evaluator to better define the true soil conditions beneath a proposed disposal field. Observation holes used for design purposes must be located at representative points clearly within the footprints of proposed non-engineered subsurface wastewater disposal fields.

402.2 Minimum number of observation holes: The number of observation holes must be sufficient to determine the soil and site characteristics beneath the entire disposal field.

402.3 Minimum depth of observation holes: The minimum depth of observation holes is based upon the

soil horizons and conditions present at the site of a proposed disposal field, as follows:

(1) Hydraulically restrictive horizons: Observation holes must extend at least 12 inches into the hydraulically restrictive horizon to check for bedrock except that no excavation is required greater than 48 inches in depth.

(2) Seasonal ground water table: Observation holes must extend at least 12 inches below the seasonal ground water table to check for bedrock except no excavation is required greater than 48 inches in depth.

402.4 Dig Safe Law: The "Dig Safe Law" requires notification if other than hand tools are utilized to dig observation holes (See 23 MRSA §3360-A).

SECTION 403.0 SOIL PROFILE DESCRIPTION

403.1 General: Observation holes are used to determine the soil and site characteristics important for subsurface wastewater disposal.

403.2 Soil profile description: For each observation hole used for design purposes, the site evaluator shall indicate each recognizable soil horizon or parent material, not including bedrock. For each observation hole the site evaluator shall provide the following information:

(1) Soil horizon thickness: Depth and thickness of each soil horizon including the organic horizon lying upon the mineral soil surface;

(2) Soil color: Soil color;

(3) Soil texture: Soil texture class;

(4) Soil consistence: Soil resistance to penetration;

(5) Soil profile: Soil profile class;

(6) Soil drainage: Depth to seasonal watertable, as determined by mottling, organic streaking, concretions, thickness and color of the "B" horizon, thickness of the "E" horizon and/or other soil morphological features indicative of a seasonal water table. See Section 404.1 for sites with plow layers greater than 7 inches thick, Section 404.0 for ground water table monitoring and Section 405.0 for filled sites.

(7) Bedrock: Depth to bedrock;

(8) Hydraulically restrictive horizons: The presence of hydraulically restrictive soil horizons; and

(9) Disturbed ground: The presence of disturbed ground.

(10) Ground Slope: Magnitude and direction of the maximum ground slope at the observation hole.

403.3 Reporting: The site evaluator shall report soil profile data on a standardized application form for a disposal system permit provided by the Department.

SECTION 404.0 ON-SITE MONITORING OF SEASONAL HIGH GROUNDWATER TABLE CONDITIONS

404.1 When used: When the "A" or "Ap" (plow layer) horizons are greater than 7 inches thick or the site evaluator is unable to determine the seasonal groundwater table depth at the proposed disposal field site by direct soil profile observation or by soil drainage class/moisture regime using Table 400.1. Groundwater monitoring documentation may be provided which shows that soil mottling, or other color patterns, at a particular site are not an indication of seasonally saturated soil conditions. Documentation must be made by directly measuring seasonal groundwater levels and temperatures in accordance with the procedures cited in this Section.

(1) Groundwater table modifications: Seasonal groundwater table monitoring documentation must be provided for sites where an attempt has or is being made to lower the seasonal water table level, to verify that soil mottling or other color patterns at a specific site are not a true indication of seasonally saturated soil conditions or high groundwater levels or that site modification has successfully drained a particular site to make it suitable for subsurface wastewater disposal in compliance with these Rules.

(2) Monitoring responsibility: A Maine Licensed Site Evaluator shall be responsible for establishing and conducting the monitoring program. The Licensed Site Evaluator shall be responsible to adequately determine site conditions, properly locate and install monitoring wells on site, and accurately collect monitoring data.

(3) Monitoring program proposal: A Maine Licensed Site Evaluator shall submit a completed proposal to the Department and the LPI prior to initiating any monitoring program. A preliminary scaled plan must be submitted by the site evaluator which illustrates the location of proposed monitoring well, property lines, dwelling(s), disposal system(s), terrain slopes, existing well(s), artificial drainage, and natural surface drainage. Logs of soil profiles observed, proposed monitoring well depths, a description of procedures and equipment to be employed to collect accurate monitoring data, and other pertinent information must also be provided.

(4) Departmental approval: The Division of Environmental Health must approve the monitoring program prior to its initiation. Failure to request prior approval from an applicant is considered cause not to accept any results of a monitoring program.

(5) Monitoring well construction: Monitoring wells must consist of 2 inches minimum diameter solid PVC pipe which extends above the soil surface a minimum of 24 inches for ease of location. This pipe must be placed a minimum of 3 inches into a 6 inch

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minimum thick layer of clean stone or gravel that is placed at the base of the excavation. Compacted native soil must be installed in the annular space surrounding the pipe below grade. Monitoring wells must have a vented cover and the pipe must be surrounded by a mounded seal extending 6 inches down from the ground surface consisting of a layer of puddled clay, bentonite, or a bentonite/grout mixture or native soil material, to prevent direct entry of precipitation or other contaminants. Site conditions may require modifications of monitoring well design, in which case the Division of Environmental Health shall be consulted.

404.2 Monitoring well observation period: Groundwater level and temperature monitoring must be done during the time of year when seasonal high groundwater table conditions are expected to occur. The first observation must be made on or before April 1st. Subsequent groundwater level readings must be made at least every seven days until June 15th or until the site is determined to be unacceptable, whichever comes first. Seasonal ground water table depths below the mineral soil surface and the soil water temperatures must be recorded.

404.3 Site conditions: Sites to be monitored must be carefully checked for groundwater drainage tile and open ditches that may have altered the natural seasonal ground water table.

404.4 Witnessing the location and installation of monitoring wells: The property owner shall give the plumbing inspector permission to witness the excavation and installation of the monitoring wells. The plumbing inspector may require a maximum of 15 days written notice prior to witnessing the location and installation of the monitoring wells.

404.5 Minimum number and location of monitoring wells: There must be at least two monitoring wells plus an additional well for every 300 gpd design flow above 300 gpd. The site evaluator shall locate the monitoring wells so that the wells will reveal representative groundwater table conditions in the soils beneath the footprint of the proposed disposal field and fill material extensions.

404.6 Monitoring well depth: In general, monitoring wells must extend to a depth of at least 3 feet below the ground surface, except that special soil conditions may require different monitoring well depths, such as the following: In permeable soils that overlie a hydraulically restrictive soil horizon, monitoring wells must terminate within the mottled soil horizon above the hydraulically restrictive soil horizon; in cases where a mottled soil horizon lies above a permeable unmottled soil, wells must terminate in the lower part of the mottled horizon. The site evaluator shall determine the depth of the monitoring wells for each site. However, for complex situations, the Division of Environmental Health shall be consulted prior to installation of the monitoring wells.

404.7 Monitoring well data calibration: Climatic conditions may cause significant year to year fluctuations in the highest seasonal groundwater table.

Monitoring well data must be compared with water resources conditions information obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to determine whether the observed seasonal high groundwater table is at or near its normal level. The Division of Environmental Health shall be consulted if USGS data indicate above or below normal groundwater levels. In addition, specific unusual climatological events occurring during the monitoring period must be recorded, such as heavy rainfall. Comparison results must be included with a monitoring report as prescribed in Subsection 404.9.

404.8 Determination of seasonal high groundwater table conditions: Acceptable or unacceptable seasonal high groundwater table conditions, based on depth and temperature measurements, as modified by water resources information described in Subsection 404.7, must be determined in accordance with the following Subsections:

(1) Water table is found at depths greater than allowed in Table 600.2 or 600.4: If the water table is found at depths greater than the minimum allowed in Table 600.2 or 600.4, monitoring must continue until June 15th or until the site has been determined to be unacceptable as prescribed in Subsection 404.8.2.

(2) Water table is found at depths shallower than allowed in Table 600.2 or 600.4: If the water table is found at a depth shallower than allowed in Table 600.2 or 600.4, and, if the corresponding soil water temperature is at or above 41°F, the site must be considered unacceptable, and the site evaluator shall notify the Department in writing. If the corresponding soil water temperature is below 41°F, monitoring must continue until June 15th or until the site has been determined to be unacceptable.

404.9 Reporting findings: If monitoring discloses that a site is acceptable, the applicant may submit an application for a disposal system permit that includes a written monitoring report prepared by the investigating site evaluator. The monitoring report must provide monitoring well locations, ground elevations at the monitoring wells, soil profile descriptions, measurement data and dates of measurement depths to observed water tables, and soil water temperatures, as well as supporting data indicating that monthly precipitation amounts are within the normal range.

404.10 Monitoring well abandonment: At the completion of the monitoring program, all monitoring wells located within the footprint of the proposed disposal field and fill extensions must be abandoned and sealed to prevent the migration of surface water or potential contaminants to the subsurface. Monitoring well pipe must be completely removed and the excavation filled with compacted native soil.

SECTION 405.0 FILLED SITES

405.1 Bedrock and Soil drainage conditions: Where the surface of the ground has been raised by the addition of fill material over the original soil, the Design Class is to be determined based upon the texture of fill

or the original soil, whichever is finer and the depth to the most limiting soil horizon. Measurement is to be taken from the original ground surface except as provided for in Section 405.2.

405.2 Fill considered equivalent to original soil: The plumbing inspector shall review and approve the use of existing fill soil as the equivalent to original soil for design purposes when the site evaluator demonstrates that:

- a) The fill material is of suitable texture, consistency, depth, extent and structure to be equivalent of original soil for design purposes, and,
- b) The fill has been in place since July 1, 1974, and
- c) The area of the fill soils include, at a minimum, the disposal field and its extensions, and
- d) The texture of fill is sandy loam or coarser, and the fill is relatively free of foreign material including organic material, and,
- e) The fill is placed in compliance with all pertinent regulations.

SECTION 406.0 BACKFILL ENVELOPE FOR DISPOSAL FIELDS ON SITES WITH VERY PERMEABLE SOIL

406.1 Intent: The intent of this section is to, by means of a backfill envelope, slow the wastewater percolation rate to provide for better phosphorous retention and wastewater treatment at disposal fields to be located over soil horizons that are coarser than backfill as defined in Section 804.2. Soils with horizons coarser than backfill are usually classified as Profile 6 and 11 soils.

406.2 Applicability: When the bottom of a disposal field is to be positioned directly on or within a soil horizon coarser than backfill as defined in Section 804.2 (coarse sand to gravelly coarse sand), a backfill envelope must be specified in the subsurface wastewater disposal system design plan.

406.3 Design Specification: The backfill envelope must consist of a 12-inch thick layer of material meeting the definition of Section 804.2 that is installed along the sidewalls and at the bottom of the disposal field. Native soil is to be removed around and beneath the proposed disposal field to effect installation of the backfill envelope.

**NOTE: See next page for Table 400.1
Key to Drainage Classes.**

SITE EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

TABLE 400.1 KEY TO DRAINAGE CLASSES

(Drafted by the Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists)

Use this key starting at the first drainage class listed (very poorly drained). If the soil being evaluated does not exhibit the soil morphological features for that drainage class, go to the next drainage class. Continue through each drainage class until the soil being evaluated meets the soil morphological features for a particular drainage class.

DRAINAGE CLASS AND MOISTURE REGIME	DRAINAGE CRITERIA OPTIONS	POSITION IN THE LANDSCAPE	COMMON PLANT SPECIES
Very Poorly Drained	1) Has organic soil materials that extend from the surface ¹ to a depth of 16 inches or more (Histosols) ² or, 2) Has organic soil materials that extend from the surface to a depth of 8 to 16 inches and is directly underlain by a horizon that has a depleted or gleyed matrix (Histic Epipedon) ³ or, 3) Has organic soil materials that extend from the surface to a depth of 4 to 8 inches and is directly underlain by a horizon that has a depleted or gleyed matrix, or, 4) Mineral soils with sulfidic materials within 20 inches of the mineral soil surface; Alluvial soils with an umbric epipedon, or,	Level or nearly level; occupies lowest position in the landscape. Commonly in depressions and is seasonally ponded or flooded	Rushes, cattails, sedges, sphagnum moss, tamarack, willow, black spruce, northern white cedar, and red maple.
Poorly Drained	1) Has dominant textures in the upper 20 inches (below the "A" or "Ap" horizon if present) of loamy fine sand or coarser and has redoximorphic features or has a Bh or Bhs horizon that is value 3 or less and chroma 2 or less, which is directly underlain by a horizon with redoximorphic features, within 7 inches of the mineral soil surface, or, 2) Has an Ap horizon that is 7 inches thick or greater with a value of 3 or less and chroma of 2 or less and a texture in all subhorizons within 20 inches of the mineral soil surface of loamy fine sand or coarser and have redoximorphic features directly beneath the Ap horizon, or, 3) Has a depleted or gleyed matrix within 20 inches of the mineral soil surface and redox depletions in ped interiors that are less than 7 inches below the mineral soil surface, or, 4) Has an Ap horizon that is 7 inches thick or greater with value of 3 or less and chroma 2 or less and has a depleted or gleyed matrix within 20 inches of the mineral soil surface and has redox depletions in ped interiors or a depleted or gleyed matrix directly beneath the Ap horizon, or	Level to gently sloping; side slopes, toe slopes, depressions and seepage areas.	Sedges, alder, willow, red maple, gray birch and aspen
Somewhat poorly drained	1) Has redoximorphic features at a depth of 7 inches to less than 16 inches below the mineral soil surface, or	Level to strongly sloping; long smooth side slopes, broad depressions and seepage areas.	Red osier dogwood, alders, willow, spruce, balsam fir, red maple, elm, aspen, grey and yellow birch
Moderately well drained	Has redoximorphic features at a depth of 16 inches to less than 40 inches below the mineral soil surface, or	Level to steep; crests and upper part of long smooth slopes and broad terraces.	Northern hardwoods, white and red pine, hemlock and grasses.
Well drained	Soil depth is at least 20 inches to bedrock and has a texture of loamy very fine sand or finer and redoximorphic features, if present, are greater than 40 inches below the mineral soil surface ⁴ , or	Level to very steep; knolls, complex slopes and terraces.	Northern hardwoods, white and red pine, hemlock and grasses.
Somewhat excessively drained	1) Soil depth is 10 to 20 inches to bedrock with a loamy or loamy-skeletal particle-size class. 2) Soil depth is 20 inches or greater to bedrock with a sandy or sandy-skeletal particle-size class with a loamy cap 10 inches thick or greater.	Level to very steep; knolls, convex slopes and terraces.	Northern hardwoods, white and red pine, white and red spruce, hemlock, and grasses.
Excessively well drained	1) Soil depth is less than 10 inches to bedrock. 2) Sandy or sandy-skeletal particle-size class with a loamy cap 10 inches thick.	Level to very steep; knolls, convex slopes and terraces.	Northern hardwoods, white and red pine, white and red spruce, hemlock and grasses. Vegetation also includes shrubs, ferns, mosses, and lichens.

¹ Surface excludes loose leaves, needles, and twigs.

² Twenty-four inches or more if 75 percent or more of the volume is sphagnum peat fibers. Organic soil excludes Foliates in this key.

³ Eight to 24 inches if 75 percent or more of the volume is sphagnum fibers.

⁴ Soils that are coarse-loamy over sandy or sandy-skeletal and lack redoximorphic features within 40 inches of the mineral soil surface also are well drained.

Note-Folists soils need on-site evaluation for drainage class determination.

CHAPTER 5

DESIGN FLOWS

SECTION 500.0 GENERAL

500.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the calculation of the design flow used for sizing disposal fields and septic tanks.

500.2 General: The design flows provided in this Chapter are based on empirical data collected over many years by numerous researchers. These design flows reflect system designs proven to function adequately over long periods of time. As such, these design flows anticipate variations in flow among different establishments of the same class as well as flow variations over time in the same establishment. These design flows also assume wastewater with strengths typical of the class of establishment. The calculation of design flows based on water saving devices is a variance and requires prior approval of the Department.

500.3 Design flow: Each component of the system must be designed and installed to adequately treat and dispose of the amount of wastewater expected to be discharged from the premises to be served. Design flows for private residences are prescribed in Section 501.0 and Table 501.1. Design flows for commercial or institutional establishments are prescribed in Section 502.0, Section 503.0 and Table 501.2.

SECTION 501.0 DESIGN FLOWS FOR DWELLING UNITS

501.1 Individual single-family dwelling units: The design flows for single-family dwelling units connected to individual systems is calculated based on Table 501.1.

501.2 Two or more single family dwelling units on a shared system: The design flow for two or more single family dwelling units on a shared system is calculated according to the design flow standards given in Table 501.1.

501.3 Multiple family dwelling units: The design flow for multiple family dwelling units is calculated at 120 gallons per unit for one bedroom units, and 90 gallons per bedroom for multiple bedroom units.

SECTION 502.0 OTHER FACILITIES USING DESIGN TABLES

502.1 General: The design flow must be the maximum flow that may reasonably be expected to be discharged from a residential, commercial, or institutional facility on any day of operation. It must be expressed in gallons per day. The design flow must not be considered as an average daily flow. It incorporates a factor of safety over the average flows to accommodate peak wastewater flows or facilities that discharge greater than the average flows of wastewater either occasionally or on a regular basis. The design flow is calculated as follows:

502.2 Base flow: To determine base design flow, multiply the design flow per unit/user from the value in Table 501.2 by the number of units or users.

502.3 Employee contribution: When employees will be present at the establishment, estimate the maximum number of employees who may be present during a single day of operation. Then multiply the number of employees by the design flow per employee.

502.4 Design flows: The values listed in Table 501.2 are minimum requirements for average facilities in the categories listed and the total design flow is the result of the summation of base flow in Section 502.2 and Employee Contribution in Section 502.3. Where actual water use data is available relating to the facility, the Department may approve the use of an alternative design flow. In such a case, the value used for the design flow must meet the requirements in Section 503.0.

SECTION 503.0 WATER USE DATA

503.1 Water use records: The design flow may be calculated from appropriate water use data, provided the following procedures are used:

(1) **Acceptable records:** Data is collected from billing records of the service provider or from water meters certified to be accurate within 2%;

(2) **One year minimum:** Continuous records over a period of at least one year, or operating season (or other period acceptable to the Department) are utilized;

(3) **Like establishments:** Records from the applicant's facilities or from a like establishment are utilized.

503.2 Adjustments for peak days: The average daily flow utilized for design purposes must be adjusted for peak flow days as follows:

(1) **Daily monitoring:** If water use records are recorded on a daily basis, the 80th percentile value calculated using standard statistical methods must be used for the design flow.

(2) **Weekly monitoring:** If water use records are recorded on a weekly basis, the 85th percentile value calculated using standard statistical methods must be used for the design flow.

(3) **Monthly monitoring:** If water use records are recorded on a monthly basis, the 90th percentile value calculated using standard statistical methods must be used for the design flow.

(4) **Quarterly monitoring:** If water use records are recorded on a quarterly basis, the 95th percentile value calculated using standard

DESIGN FLOWS

statistical methods must be used for the design flow.

Other Methods: In the event a system designer demonstrates that an alternative method for calculating a design flow based upon water use data is at least as effective as the methodology described in §§ 503.2.1 – 503.2.4, the Department may approve such alternate method.

503.3 Adjustments for Effluent Quality: Facilities other than residential, using water records to determine design flows, must also comply with Section 603.0 and footnote 2 to Table 501.2. (The Minimum Lot Size Law may also apply).

TABLE 501.1
Design flows for single family dwellings

Bedrooms	GPD per dwelling
2 or less	180
3	270
4	360
5	450
6	540
Each additional bedroom	90
Primitive disposal field	25 (See Section 1000.2)
Limited disposal field	50 (See Section 1000.2)

TABLE 501.2
Design flows for other facilities

NOTE: The design flows calculated in this table represent the design flow for purposes of calculating the septic tank capacity (Section 906.0) and the size of the disposal field (Table 600.1), unless otherwise noted.

Important: See notes 1 and 2 at end of Tables - p. 5-3

Type of facility	Design flow per user or unit
Airports	5 gpd per passenger plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Assembly areas	2 gpd per seat
Bakery	100 gpd per bakery plus 15 gpd per employee [1, 2]
Barber shop	100 gpd per chair
Beauty salon	100 gpd per chair
Bed and breakfast	90 gpd per establishment and 75 gpd per rental room
Boarding houses with meals	180 gpd per house plus 50 gpd per boarder
Bottle club	10 gpd per seat
Bunkhouses	20 gpd per bed
Bus service areas	5 gpd per passenger plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Butcher shop or department	100 gpd per shop plus 15 gpd per employee [1,2]
Cafeteria, open general public	30 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd per employee [1,2]
Cafeteria, private	15 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd/employee [1,2]
Campground sites served by central toilets	60 gpd per site and includes dump station
Campground sites served by individual water and sewer hookups	75 gpd per site
Campground dump station	10 gpd per site for each trailer site not served by individual water and sewer hookups
Campground park model trailer sites	125 gpd per site
Children's camps, day use only	15 gpd per camper plus 15 gpd per staff person
Children's camps, day and night	20 gpd per camper plus 15 gpd per staff person
Churches	4 gpd per seat for general seating and 8 gpd per seat for seats in a dining area
Dance hall	5 gpd per attendee plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Day care facilities serving meals	15 gpd per child plus 15 gpd per adult
Day care facilities not serving meals	10 gpd per child plus 15 gpd per adult
Eating Places:	
Delicatessen, food prepared and no seats	100 gpd per deli or 1 gpd per meal served plus 15 gpd per employee [1, 2] (whichever is larger)
Delicatessen, no food prepared and no seats	50 gpd per deli plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Drive-in, no full meals and no china service	30 gpd per car space plus 15 gpd/ employee [1, 2]
Eating place, takeout	100 gpd or 1 gpd per meal served plus 15 gpd per employee [1, 2] (whichever is larger)
Eating place, paper service	7 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd/ employee [1, 2]
Ice Cream Stands, ice cream only with no seats	150 gpd per stand plus 15 gpd per employee. [1, 2]

Type of facility	Design flow per user or unit
Eating Place 1meal/day	10gpd per seat plus 15 gpd per employee [1, 2]
Eating Place, 2 meals/day	20 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd per employee (1,2)
Eating Place, 3 meals/day	30 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd/employee [1, 2]
Employees at place of employment with no showers	15 gpd per employee [1]
Employees at place of employment with showers	20 gpd per employee [1]
Fairgrounds	2 gpd per attendee based on average daily attendance
Gyms, not associated with schools	10 gpd per participant plus 3 gpd per spectator plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Health clubs	10 gpd per participant plus 3 gpd per spectator plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Hospitals	150 gpd per bed plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Hotels and motels with shared baths	80 gpd per bedroom plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Hotels and motels with private baths	100 gpd per bedroom plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Laundry, self-service	600 gpd per machine plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Limited operation hunting camp	45 gpd per owner/occupant plus 15 gpd per hunter/guest
Marina	100 gpd plus 10 gpd per slip or mooring (clothes washers are not included; design flow for clothes washers must be calculated separately)
Medical offices, clinics, and dental offices	80 gpd per medical staff plus 5 gpd per patient plus 15 gpd/office employee [1]
Nursing Homes	150 gpd per bed plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Parks and picnic areas, public rest rooms and no showers	5 gpd per attendee plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Parks and picnic areas, public rest rooms and showers	10 gpd per attendee plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Rooming houses, no meals	180 gpd per house plus 30 gpd per roomer
Recreation/sporting camps	45 gpd per owner/occupant plus 25 gpd per bed/sportsperson
Rental cabins and cottages	50 gpd per bed plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Rental cabins, housekeeping	50 gpd per cabin, plus 50 gpd per bed
School, elementary	7 gpd per student plus 15 gpd per teacher and other employees [1]
School, junior high	9 gpd per student plus 15 gpd per teacher and other employees [1]
School, high	12 gpd per student plus 15 gpd per teacher and other employees [1]
School, boarding	75 gpd per student plus 15 gpd per teacher and other employees [1]
Service stations	100 gpd per fuel pump cabinet plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Shopping centers or stores, public rest rooms and showers	400 gpd per water closet plus 20 gpd per shower plus 15 gpd per employee [1] Design flows for any eating places or butcher shops must be determined and added to total design flow.
Shopping centers or stores, no public rest rooms	1 gpd per parking space plus 15 gpd per employee [1] Design flows for any eating places or butcher shops must be determined and added to total design flow. NOTE: Title 22 M.R.S.A. §270 requires a public rest room for shopping centers containing 6 or more separate retail establishments with an off street public parking area of not less than 2 acres.
Sports Bars	20 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd per employee [1,2]
Taverns/Bars (including but not limited to, pubs, billiard halls, etc.)	10 gpd per seat plus 15 gpd per employee [1]
Tennis and racquetball courts	300 gpd per court plus 15 gpd per employee [1] Design flows for any eating places must be determined and added to the total design flow
Visitors center	6 gpd per visitor plus 15 gpd/ employee (This includes libraries, museums, similar uses) [1]

NOTES:

[1.] The design flow for employees is based on the total number of employees present in any 24-hour period.

[2.] Multiply the hydraulic loading rate by 1.8 for sizing the disposal field. The initial value taken from the table is used to size the septic tank and for minimum lot size determinations.

[3.] Adjustment for restaurant waste: Table 501.2, footnote 2 requires that disposal areas for restaurants be increased by 80% (multiplied by 1.8). This multiplying factor may be decreased by using the following criteria (Department review required):

a. If the septic tank capacity is equal to or greater than 200% of the design flow - deduct 0.2.

b. If multiple compartment tanks or tanks in series are used - deduct 0.1.

c. If the facility uses an external grease interceptor meeting the requirements of Section 912.0 - deduct 0.1.

d. If the treatment tank(s) use an approved effluent filter - deduct 0.1.

e. The applicant may add the total deductions and subtract them from 1.8. The disposal area must be increased by the resulting factor.

DESIGN FLOWS

CHAPTER 6

DISPOSAL FIELDS

SECTION 600.0 GENERAL

600.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the requirements for disposal field design.

600.2 General: The design of a disposal field is dependent on the soil profile, type of the most limiting factor plus the volume and quality of the wastewater and depth to the most limiting factor. Design Classes are used to describe both the soil limitations observed within the proposed disposal field and the required minimum design features. Design Classes are described in Table 600.1.

600.3 Owner/operator: The owner/operator shall accurately describe the intended uses (present and future) for the system. The owner shall operate the system within the design parameters, except as provided for in Section 1702, Expansion or Change in Use of Existing Structures, following the designer's recommendations for inspection and maintenance, as well as any State or local regulations.

600.4 Disposal field required: An approved disposal field is needed for all structures requiring subsurface wastewater disposal, unless the structure is served by a holding tank complying with Chapter 20 or is served by an alternative toilet with no gray wastewater generated.

600.5 Kinds of disposal fields: For the purposes of this code, disposal fields include leach trenches, leach beds, proprietary disposal devices, peat disposal fields, or privies designed and installed in compliance with this code.

600.6 Sizing requirements: The size of a disposal field's required infiltration area is determined using design factors in compliance with Section 603.0 and Table 600.1 and design flows in compliance with Chapter 5. Sizing for stone-filled disposal trenches is determined according to the following sizing factors:

Trench width Sizing factors

2 feet : 4 square feet per linear foot of trench

3 feet: 5 square feet per linear foot of trench.

600.7 Basal area loading rate: When a disposal area is designed a minimum of 12 inches above grade with suitable backfill material, the disposal area in the backfill may be sized at a minimum of 3.3 sq. ft./gpd, provided the basal area and down gradient fill extension footprint has the minimum area of the design flow multiplied by the hydraulic loading rate of the underlying original soils.

600.8 Installation: A disposal field may be installed on any site that is in compliance with Tables 600.2 through 600.4 and is in compliance with the Minimum Lot Size Law.

600.9 Vehicular traffic: Except where site limitations make it impractical, no driveway or parking or turning area may be located over any disposal field. When a system is placed under an area receiving vehicular traffic, H-20 loading components must be installed.

600.10 Infiltration: Rain, surface, and ground water must not be drained into any component of a system.

SECTION 601.0 LIMITING FACTORS

601.1 General: For the purpose of determining the design class, the soils in the area beneath the proposed disposal field(s) must meet or exceed the criteria of the design class, as specified in Table 600.1 and Tables 600.2 through 600.4. When two or more conditions are observed, the more limiting of the two conditions must be used. See Section 1102.4 (Engineered disposal systems) for additional soil data requirements.

SECTION 602.0 SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

602.1 Soil profile 10: Disposal fields on Profile 10 soils must comply with Table 600.3 and they must receive prior approval of the plumbing inspector and the Department. First time systems and non-exempted expansion systems are not allowed on Profile 10 soils.

602.2 Soil profile 11: Soil profile 11 is an alluvial soil and its texture varies with the deposition process that laid it down. Therefore, for design purposes, use the soil profile class that best fits the observed soil textures.

602.3 Sites with two or more soil profiles: When two or more soil or profile classes are observed under a proposed disposal field, the design shall be based on the soil profile class which requires the largest disposal field.

602.4 Elevated disposal fields: All disposal fields designed entirely in fill material must be sized using the disposal field size category of the original soil profile class observed below the fill material or the fill material, whichever requires the largest disposal field.

602.5 Lined disposal fields: Disposal fields designed with liners must be sized using the medium disposal field size category (2.6 sq. ft./gpd).

602.6 Serial distribution: Serial distribution may be utilized when the following conditions have been met:

(1) **Pitch of connecting pipes:** The pitch of the connecting pipes is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch per foot (2 percent) or greater.

(2) **Separation distance:** The separation distance between rows must be as indicated in Appendix B.

SECTION 603.0 WASTEWATER STRENGTH ADJUSTMENTS FACTORS

603.1 General: The size of the disposal field must be adjusted utilizing the factors listed in Table 603.1 when the wastewater entering a disposal field has a combined 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and total suspended solid (TSS) concentration not equal to 240 milligrams per liter,.

(1) **Values less than 240 mg/L:** The constructed size of a stone disposal field may be reduced by use of the appropriate factor

DISPOSAL FIELDS

from Table 603.1. The constructed size of a proprietary device disposal field may be reduced by use of the appropriate factor from Table 603.1, provided a reduction is allowed by the manufacturer. If an adjustment factor resulting in a reduction in the disposal area of more than 50% is utilized, the HHE-200 Form submitted for permitting must delineate a disposal area without the use of any adjustment factor.

(2) Values greater than 240 and less than or equal to 2,000 mg/L: The size of a disposal field must be increased by use of the appropriate factor from Table 603.1.

(3) Values greater than 2,000 mg/L: Subsurface wastewater disposal areas designed to handle wastes with a combined BOD₅ and TSS greater than 2,000 mg/L are beyond the scope of these Rules and may require licensing by the Department of Environmental Protection as specified in Section 203.2 of these rules.

**TABLE 603.1
ADJUSTMENT FACTOR FOR WASTEWATER STRENGTHS
DIFFERENT FROM TYPICAL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER**

Strength of wastewater entering the disposal field (BOD ₅ plus TSS)	Adjustment factor (AF)
30 or less milligrams/liter	0.5
52	0.6
82	0.7
122	0.8
175	0.9
240	1.0
320	1.1
420	1.2
530	1.3
660	1.4
810	1.5
985	1.6
1180	1.7
1400	1.8
1645	1.9
2000	2.0

603.2 Application: The applicant shall submit a proposal that is prepared, signed, and sealed by a Maine Professional Engineer or Site Evaluator. The proposal must include at least the following:

(1) Description: A description of the project and all factors that are involved in the design;

(2) Wastewater quality data: The data must include at least four sets of BOD and TSS samples from the subject facility. The samples must be taken when the designer expects the TSS and BOD levels to be

representative values. If data from a similar facility are used, there must be at least two such facilities sampled. The reports for all samples must be submitted from a certified laboratory. The rate of flow of wastewater at the time of sampling must also be determined and reported;

(3) Analysis: The 90th percentile value of all samples collected must be used to select an adjustment factor from Table 603.1.

603.3 State approval: An adjustment factor must not be used unless the proposal has been approved in writing by the Department and the owner has agreed to all conditions (if any) included in the letter of approval.

(1) State review: The application must be reviewed for compliance with this code, good engineering practice, use of the best acceptable technologies, and protection of the public welfare.

(2) Acceptable technology: The use of additional pretreatment to lower the expected wastewater strength must be reviewed by the Department. Approval will require the adoption of an acceptable program for operation, inspection and maintenance appropriate for the proposed technology.

SECTION 604.0 SIZING DISPOSAL FIELDS USING AN ADJUSTMENT FOR DIFFERENT WASTEWATER STRENGTHS

604.1 Hydraulic loading rate: The hydraulic loading rate noted in Table 600.1 must be adjusted by using Equation 604.1.

Equation 604.1

AHLR = AF x HLR
where:

AHLR is the adjusted hydraulic loading rate.

AF is the adjustment factor for wastewater strength entering the disposal field, taken from Table 603.1, if applicable.

HLR is the hydraulic loading rate, in square feet per gallon per day, for the applicable soil profile from Table 600.1. □

604.2 Sizing proprietary devices: Proprietary disposal devices may be substituted for stone disposal fields pursuant to the requirements of Section 603.1

SECTION 605.0 SEPARATION DISTANCE BETWEEN THE BOTTOM OF DISPOSAL FIELDS AND LIMITING HORIZONS

605.1 Elevation of the bottom of disposal field: The elevation of the bottom of the disposal field must be determined by the depth to the most limiting factor observed under the proposed disposal field area.

605.2 Seasonal groundwater tables: The required minimum vertical separation distances between the bottom of disposal fields and the seasonal groundwater table varies with the Design Class. The required minimum vertical separation distances between the bottom of disposal fields and seasonal ground water tables are prescribed in Tables 600.2, 600.3 and 600.4.

605.3 Hydraulically restrictive horizons: The required minimum vertical separation distance between the bottom of disposal fields and hydraulically restrictive horizons varies with the Design Class. The required minimum vertical separation distances between the bottom of the disposal field and hydraulically restrictive horizons are prescribed in Tables 600.2 through 600.4.

605.4 Bedrock horizons: The required minimum vertical separation distance between the bottom of disposal fields and bedrock for all disposal fields is 24 inches. See Tables 600.2 through 600.4.

SECTION 606.0 FLOOD PLAINS

606.1 Assumptions: This Section assumes the major impact of flooding is a reduction in the life expectancy of a system. Ten (10) years is a realistic frequency to allow for partial flood water inundation of a system. More frequent flooding can be expected to reduce the design life of the system.

NOTE: See next page for Table 600.1 Soil Profile, Soil Condition, and Design Class.

606.2 First-time systems: First-time systems are not allowed in the coastal V-Zone indicated by the most current Federal Insurance Rate Maps or below the 10-year storm surge elevation, whichever is more restrictive. The 10-year storm surge elevation in Maine is approximately the 8-foot National Geodetic Vertical Datum.

606.3 Replacement systems: Replacement systems may be permitted in flood plains, if no practical alternative exists.

SECTION 607.0 DISPOSAL FIELD "FOOTPRINT"

607.1 Definition of footprint: For purposes of these Rules, the disposal field "footprint" means that area identified as a "disposal field" for setback or separation measurement purposes.

(1) Conventional (stone) system: The horizontal measurement location must be at the interface of the stone and soil. The top (vertical) measurement must be from the top of the hay layer or fabric. The bottom measurement must be from the interface of the stone and soil.

(2) Proprietary device system (no stone or gravel utilized): The horizontal measurement location must be at the interface of the proprietary device and the soil. The top (vertical) measurement must be from the top of the proprietary device or fabric. The bottom measurement must be from the interface of the proprietary device and soil.

(3) Proprietary device with stone adjacent to devices: The measurement location must be at the interface of the stone and soil.

(4) Proprietary device with stone beneath devices: The measurement location must be at the interface of the stone and soil.

DISPOSAL FIELDS

TABLE 600.1 SOIL PROFILE SOIL CONDITION DESIGN CLASS DISPOSAL FIELD SIZING FACTOR			DESIGN CLASS Must be used with Tables 600.2, 600.3, & 600.4 “Minimum Permitting Conditions and Design Requirements”										Disposal Field Sizing Factor
SOIL PROFILE ▼		SOIL CONDITION ►	Bedrock Condition				Soil Drainage Condition					Multiply the hydraulic loading rate (square feet per gallon per day) times the design flow (gallons per day). This gives the minimum square feet of bottom and side wall area below the invert needed for a standard stone-filled disposal field. For trench disposal field sizing, see Section 600.6. Proprietary devices may be used in lieu of stone filled fields. See Appendix B.	
Parent Material	Soil Profile	Textural Classification and Profile Description	Inches from the mineral soil surface to bedrock				Inches from the mineral soil surface to seasonal high groundwater table. Also, for design purposes, hydraulically restrictive horizon when mottling is not present.						
			A0	AI	AII	AIII	B	C	DII	DI	E		
Basal Glacial Till	1	Silt loam textured soils throughout the entire profile. The lower horizons usually have prismatic or platy structures. This profile tends to become firm dense and impervious with depth thus this profile may have a hydraulically restrictive horizon. Angular rock fragments are usually present. Occasionally cobbles and stones may be present.	Design Class 4	Design Class 3	Design Class 1	Design Class 3	Design Class 4	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	4.1 ft²/gpd Large		
Ablation Till	2	Loam to sandy loam textured soils throughout the entire profile. This profile does not have a hydraulically restrictive horizon. Angular rock fragments are present. Occasionally cobbles and stones may be present.									3.3 ft²/gpd Medium-Large		
Basal Glacial Till	3	Loam to loamy sand textured soils throughout the entire profile. The lower soil horizons usually have well defined prismatic or platy structures that are very compact and are difficult to excavate. These lower horizons are considered hydraulically restrictive. Angular rock fragments are present. Occasionally cobbles and stones are present.									3.3 ft²/gpd Medium-Large		
Ablation Till	4	Sandy loam to loamy sand textured upper horizon(s) overlying loamy sand textured lower horizon. This profile tends to be loose and easy to excavate. Lower horizons tend not to be firm and are not considered hydraulically restrictive. Angular rock fragments are present along with partially water-worn cobbles and stones									2.6 ft²/gpd Medium		
Stratified Glacial Drift	5	Loam to loamy sand textured upper horizons overlying fine and medium sand parent materials. Stratified horizons of water-sorted materials may be present. Lower horizons tend to be granular or massive. Entire profile tends to be loose except that saturated horizons may be cemented and therefore firm and are considered hydraulically restrictive. Horizons with rounded rock fragments are common.	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	Design Class 2	Design Class 3	Design Class 4	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	2.6 ft²/gpd Medium		
Stratified Glacial Drift	6	Loamy sand to sand textured upper horizons overlying stratified coarse sands or gravel parent materials. Stratified horizons of water-sorted materials may be present. Entire profile tends to be loose except that saturated horizons may be cemented and therefore firm and are considered hydraulically restrictive. Horizons with rounded rock fragments are common.									2.6 ft²/gpd Medium		
Mixed Geological Origins	7	Fifteen (15) or more inches of sandy loam to loamy sand glacial till or loamy sand to sand stratified drift parent material overlying marine or lacustrine deposited silt to silty clay or fifteen (15) or more inches of loamy sand to sand stratified drift parent material overlying firm basal till. The upper horizons tend to be granular in structure. The lower horizons tend to be firm and massive in structure and are considered to be hydraulically restrictive. Rock fragments may be present in upper horizons but are usually absent in lower horizons, except for basal till.	Design Class 4	Design Class 3	Design Class 1	Design Class 3	Design Class 4	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	Design Class 5	3.3 ft²/gpd Medium-Large		
Lacustrine Deposits	8	Loam to fine sandy loam upper horizon(s) overlying firm silt loam to silt textured lower horizons. The upper horizons tend to be granular in structure. The lower horizons tend to be firm and massive in structure and are considered to be hydraulically restrictive. Stratified lenses of fine sand and sandy loam may be present in the lower horizons. Coarse rocks are usually absent throughout entire profile.									4.1 ft²/gpd [a] Large		
Marine Deposits	9	Silt loam textured upper horizons overlying firm silt loam to silty clay textured lower horizons. The lower horizons tend to be very firm and are considered to be hydraulically restrictive. Coarse rock are usually absent throughout entire profile. Thin lenses of very fine sand to silt may be present in the lower horizons									5.0 ft²/gpd [a] Extra-Large		
Organic Deposits	10	Partially decomposed organic material at least 16" in thickness.									Contact Department for sizing factor.		
Alluvial Dune Beach Deposits	11	These soils have no typical profile. Variable in texture and exhibit very little weathering. They are deposited in flood plains, sand dunes or beach environments.	Use the Soil Profile Bedrock Class Soil Drainage Class and minimum hydraulic loading rate that best describes the observed profile.										
Filled Site	12	These soils have no typical profile. Variable in texture. May contain man-made materials.	Use the Soil Profile Bedrock Class Soil Drainage Class and minimum hydraulic loading rate that best describes the observed profile.										

[a.] A medium large sizing factor of 3.3 ft²/gpd is allowed with a minimum of 12" of backfill material meeting the standards of Section 804.2 between the bottom of disposal field and original mineral soil surface. See Section 600.6.1.

**TABLE 600.2 MINIMUM PERMITTING CONDITIONS AND MINIMUM DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
FIRST TIME SYSTEMS**

Minimum Requirements vs. Design Class						
Design Factors		Design Class as determined from Table 600.1				
		1	2	3	4	5
NON-ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of less than 2000 gallons per day	Outside Shoreland Zone	Allowed.				
	Inside Shoreland Zone	Allowed.	Allowed only for Condition AIII, B, and C soils. May be allowed by variance for Condition DI and DII soils only. See Chapter 19	May be allowed by variance for Condition DII soil only. See Chapter 19.	May be allowed by variance for Condition DI soil only. See Chapter 19.	
ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more	Outside Shoreland Zone	Allowed with Department approval. See Chapter 11.				Not Allowed.
	Inside Shoreland Zone	Allowed with Department approval. See Chapter 11.	Allowed with Department approval only for Condition AIII, B, and C soils. May be allowed by variance for Condition DI and DII soils only. See Chapter 19	May be allowed by variance for Condition DII soil only. See Chapter 19	May be allowed by variance for Condition DI soil only. See Chapter 19.	
WETLAND PERMIT: No wetland permit required if in accordance with Ch.15		No Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit is required if in compliance with Chapter 15.				Not applicable
SEASONAL GROUNDWATER TABLE: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and seasonal high groundwater table.		12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum	18 inch minimum. 24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy textured Profiles 11 and 12;		
HYDRAULICALLY RESTRICTIVE HORIZON: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and hydraulically restrictive horizon.		12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum	18 inch minimum. 24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy textured Profiles 11 and 12.		
BEDROCK: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and bedrock.		24-inch minimum.				
FILL MATERIAL SHOULDER (BERM) WIDTHS (sloped at 3%):		3-foot minimum.				
FILL EXTENSIONS: Slope fill extensions beyond the edge of the shoulder (berm) are specified in the number of horizontal feet for each vertical foot of drop.		The fill extension must be at least 4 horizontal feet for each vertical foot drop. (25% slope).				
SETBACK DISTANCES: Reduction in the setback distances indicated in Chapter 7		May be allowed by variance. See Chapter 19.				
PRE- OR ADVANCED TREATMENT: Includes components (sand filters, proprietary units, etc.), as listed in Appendix B.		Optional. Disposal field area may be reduced by applicable adjustment factor in accordance with Table 603.1, depending on type of treatment.				
BACKFILL ENVELOPE		Required for disposal fields located on or in soil coarser than backfill See Section 406.0.				
MOUNDING ANALYSIS:		Required for systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more. Not required for systems with design flows less than 2,000 gallons per day.				

Note: The design class (1 through 5) must be determined from Table 600.1

DISPOSAL FIELDS

**TABLE 600.3 MINIMUM PERMITTING CONDITIONS AND MINIMUM DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
REPLACEMENT SYSTEMS AND EXPANSIONS OUTSIDE THE SHORELAND ZONE OF MAJOR
WATERBODIES/COURSES**

Minimum Requirements vs. Design Class					
Design Factors	Design Class as determined from Table 600.1				
	1	2	3	4	5
NON-ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of less than 2,000 gallons per day.	Allowed.				Allowed with LPI approval for replacements only. (See Ch. 19).
ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more.	Allowed; replacements only for Design Class 5. Department approval is required. See Chapter 11.				
WETLAND PERMIT: No wetland permit required if in accordance with Ch.15	No Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit is required if in compliance with Chapter 15.				
SEASONAL GROUNDWATER TABLE: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and seasonal high groundwater table.	12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12. 18-inch minimum for all other profiles. If the site evaluator determines there is no practical alternative the separation distance may be reduced down to 18 inches for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12, and 12 inches for all other profiles.			24-inch minimum
HYDRAULICALLY RESTRICTIVE HORIZON: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and hydraulically restrictive horizon.	12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12. 18-inch minimum for all other profiles. If the site evaluator determines there is no practical alternative the separation distance may be reduced down to 18 inches for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12, and 12 inches for all other profiles.			24-inch minimum
BEDROCK: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and bedrock.	24-inch minimum.				
FILL MATERIAL SHOULDER (BERM) WIDTHS (sloped at 3%):	3-foot minimum.				
FILL EXTENSIONS: Slope fill extensions beyond the edge of the shoulder (berm) are specified in the number of horizontal feet for each vertical foot of drop.	The fill extension must be at least 4 horizontal feet for each vertical foot drop (25% slope) unless the site evaluator determines there is no practical alternative				
SETBACK DISTANCES: Maximum percent reduction in the setback distances shown in Chapter 7 which can be approved by the plumbing inspector.	If possible, the setbacks must meet the distances shown in Table 700.2. If the setbacks cannot be met, the plumbing inspector is authorized to reduce the setback distances as shown in Table 700.3.				
PRE- OR ADVANCED TREATMENT: Includes components (sand filters, proprietary units, etc.), as listed in Appendix B..	May be required by the department on sites with severe limitations. Disposal field area may be reduced by applicable adjustment factor in accordance with Table 603.1, depending on type of treatment.				
BACKFILL ENVELOPE	Required for disposal fields located on or in soil coarser than backfill See Section 406.0				
MOUNDING ANALYSIS:	Required for systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more. Not required for systems with design flows less than 2,000 gallons per day.				

Note: The design class (1 through 5) must be determined from Table 600.1

**TABLE 600.4 MINIMUM PERMITTING CONDITIONS AND MINIMUM DESIGN REQUIREMENTS
EXPANSIONS WITHIN THE SHORELAND ZONE OF MAJOR WATERBODIES/COURSES**

Minimum Requirements vs. Design Class					
Design Factors	Design Class as determined from Table 600.1				
	1	2	3	4	5
NON-ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of less than 2,000 gallons per day.	Allowed.	Allowed only for Condition AIII, B, C, DI and DII soils. See Chapter 17.	Allowed only for Condition DI and DII soils. See Chapter 17.		Not Allowed.
ENGINEERED SYSTEMS: Systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more.	Allowed with Department approval for design classes 1 and 2 (Soil Conditions AIII, B, and C only). See Chapters 11 and 17.				
WETLAND PERMIT: No wetland permit required if in accordance with Ch.15	No Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit is required if in compliance with Ch. 15.				Not applicable
SEASONAL GROUNDWATER TABLE: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and seasonal high groundwater table.	12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12. 18-inch minimum for all other profiles.			
HYDRAULICALLY RESTRICTIVE HORIZON: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and hydraulically restrictive horizon.	12-inch minimum	24-inch minimum for Profiles 5 and 6 and sandy-textured Profiles 11 and 12. 18-inch minimum for all other profiles			
BEDROCK: Separation distance (original soil and fill) between bottom of disposal field and bedrock.	24-inch minimum.				
FILL MATERIAL SHOULDER (BERM) WIDTHS (sloped at 3%):	3-foot minimum.				
FILL EXTENSIONS: Slope fill extensions beyond the edge of the shoulder (berm) are specified in the number of horizontal feet for each vertical foot of drop.	The fill extension must be at least 4 horizontal feet for each vertical foot drop (25% slope) unless the site evaluator determines there is no practical alternative.				
SETBACK DISTANCES: Maximum percent reduction in the setback distances shown in Chapter 7 which can be approved by the plumbing inspector.	If possible, the setbacks must meet the distances shown in Table 700.2. If the setbacks cannot be met, the plumbing inspector may be authorized to reduce the setback distances as shown in Table 700.4. See Chapter 17.				
PRE- OR ADVANCED TREATMENT: Includes components (sand filters, proprietary units, etc.), as listed in Appendix B.	May be required by the Department on sites with severe limitations. Disposal field area may be reduced by applicable adjustment factor in accordance with Table 603.1, depending on type of treatment.				
BACKFILL ENVELOPE	Required for disposal fields located on or in soil coarser than backfill See Section 406.0				
MOUNDING ANALYSIS:	Required for systems with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or more. Not required for systems with design flows less than 2,000 gallons per day				

Note: The design class (1 through 5) must be determined from Table 600.1

DISPOSAL FIELDS

CHAPTER 7

DISPOSAL SYSTEM SETBACKS

SECTION 700.0 GENERAL

700.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the horizontal setback distances between disposal fields, treatment tanks, and various site features.

700.2 General: These rules govern the setback for certain new and replacement wastewater disposal system components from existing water wells. The State of Maine Well Drillers and Pump Installers Rules (144 CMR 232) govern the setback of new and replacement water wells from certain existing wastewater disposal system components.

SECTION 701.0 SETBACKS FOR FIRST TIME DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

701.1 General: The minimum horizontal setbacks between first-time disposal system components and site features are set forth in Table 700.2, except as otherwise authorized in this section.

701.2 Reductions in Setback Distances between a First-Time Disposal System and a Private Potable Water Supply: If a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a first time disposal system which is designed to handle 1,000 gpd or less, at least 100 feet from a potable water supply, the local plumbing inspector may authorize the setback reductions set forth in Table 700.1, provided that reductions are minimized.

TABLE 700.1

Reduction in setbacks between a Private Potable Water Supply and a disposal field with a design flow of less than 1,000 gpd

Depth of well casing or liner seal below ground level	Reduction in the minimum 100 ft setback distance
>40 feet to 55 feet	100 down to 90 feet
>55 feet to 70 feet	100 down to 80 feet
>70 feet to 86 feet	100 down to 70 feet
>86 feet	100 down to 60 feet

701.3 Reductions in Setback Distances Between First Time Disposal System and Private Potable Water Supplies Installed Before May 1, 1995: Disposal system setbacks from potable water supplies installed prior to May 1, 1995 must be as set forth in Table 700.2.

701.4 Reductions to Setback Distances Between First Time Disposal Systems and Private Potable Water Supplies Installed After May 1, 1995: If a potable water supply was installed after May 1, 1995, and a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a first time disposal system in accordance with the setbacks set forth in Table 700.2 the disposal system setbacks from the potable water supply may be reduced to a minimum of 60 feet.

701.5 Additional Setback Reductions Between First Time Disposal Systems and Site Features other than Private Potable Water Supplies which may be Authorized by the Department: If a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a first time disposal system in accordance with Table 700.2, the Department may authorize additional setback reductions, provided that the site conditions and ground water flow are such that the disposal system design will offer at least as much protection as would be expected using the setback distances prescribed in Table 700.2.

SECTION 702.0 SETBACKS FOR REPLACEMENT DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

702.1 General: The minimum horizontal setback distances between a replacement disposal system and site features is as set forth in Table 700.2, except as otherwise authorized in this section.

702.2 Setback Reductions Between Replacement Disposal Systems and Site Features other than Private Potable Water Supplies Authorized by the Local Plumbing Inspector: If a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a replacement disposal system in accordance with setbacks, , as set forth in Table 700.2, the local plumbing inspector may authorize the setback reductions as proposed by the site evaluator, provided that reductions are minimized. The local plumbing inspector may request assistance from the Department regarding the review and approval of any replacement system variance request.

702.3 Setback Reductions Between Replacement Disposal Systems and Private Potable Water Supplies which may be Authorized by the Local Plumbing Inspector: If a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a replacement disposal system in accordance with the setbacks as set forth in Table 700.2, the local plumbing inspector may authorize the additional setback reductions as follows:

(1) Replacement Disposal Systems and Private Potable Water Supplies Installed before May 1, 1995: If a potable water supply was installed prior to May 1, 1995, a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a replacement disposal system with setbacks from the potable water supply in accordance with Table 700.2, the disposal system setbacks from the potable water supply may be reduced to the existing setbacks, provided that reductions are minimized.

(2) Replacement Disposal Systems and Private Potable Water Supplies Installed after May 1, 1995: If a potable water supply was installed after May 1, 1995, a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a replacement disposal system with setbacks from the potable water supply in accordance with Table 700.2 the disposal system setbacks from the potable

DISPOSAL SYSTEM SETBACKS

water supply may be reduced to a minimum of 60 feet, provided that reductions are minimized.

702.4 Additional Setback Reductions Between Replacement Disposal Systems and a Private Potable Water Supply which may be Authorized by the Department: If a site evaluator determines that it is impractical to install a replacement disposal system in accordance with the setbacks authorized by the local plumbing inspector from a potable water supply, the Department may authorize additional setback reductions, on a site specific, case-by-case basis provided that: there is no practical alternative, and reductions are minimized.

703.0 SETBACKS FOR EXPANDED SYSTEMS

703.1 General: The minimum horizontal setback distances between expanded disposal system components and site features are as set forth in Tables 700.3 and 700.4.

SECTION 704.0 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM WELLS

704.1 General: Wells which serve public water systems are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency through the Drinking Water Program of the Division of Environmental Health. Public water systems may include motels, schools, restaurants, factories, apartment buildings and condominiums.

704.2 Setback from public water system well: All disposal fields must be at least 300 feet from any public water system well. All treatment tanks must be at least 150 feet from any public water system well.

704.3 Waiver to setback from public water system well: The Department may grant waivers to 704.2 on a case-by-case, site-specific basis. Any waivers granted require concurrence of both the Drinking Water Program and the Subsurface Wastewater Program, and may require additional engineering, construction inspection and increased monitoring of the water supply.

SECTION 705.0 NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT

705.1 General: Activities in or adjacent to coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds and water courses are regulated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

705.2 Setbacks: Setbacks must be maintained between system components and wetlands or water bodies as listed in Tables 700.2 through 700.4. In accordance with Sections 1504.2.1 and 1504.2.2, a setback buffer must be established between the upland edge or boundary of coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds and water courses and filling, excavating, bulldozing, or

scrapping of the adjacent land. (See the setback example in illustration 705.0 at the end of this chapter.)

(1) Slopes of less than 20%: On sustained slopes of less than 20%, a 25-foot setback must be maintained between the upland edge of coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds and water courses and any soil disturbance.

(2) Slopes of 20% or greater: On sustained slopes of 20% or greater, a 100-foot setback must be maintained between the upland edge of coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds and water courses and any soil disturbance.

(3) Replacement system setbacks: These setback requirements may be waived for replacement system installation or system maintenance, provided that the site evaluator determines no practical alternative exists.

705.3 Maine Department of Environmental Protection individual NRPA permits required: In order to reduce setback requirements of first-time systems from the upland edge of coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds and water courses, an individual wetland alteration permit may be required from Maine Department of Environmental Protection under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA).

705.4 Water quality/quantity buffer zones: First time disposal fields, including fill extensions, may not be located in areas designated as buffer zones for storm water quality or quantity treatment.

SECTION 706.0 PRIVIES AND HOLDING TANKS

706.1 Pit privies: A pit privy is considered a "disposal field" for the purpose of setback distances in Chapter 7, except for the distance requirements from a building. Pit privies may be part of a larger building.

706.2 Sealed vault privies: A sealed vault privy is considered a "treatment tank" for the purpose of setback distances in Chapter 7, except for the distance requirements from a building. Sealed vault privies may be part of a larger building.

706.3 Holding tank replacement systems: When no practical alternative exists, a holding tank may be used for a replacement system.

TABLE 700.2
Setback distances for first time systems

Site features vs disposal system components of various sizes□	Disposal Fields (total design flow)□			Treatment Tanks (total design flow)		
	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd
Wells with water usage of 2000 or more gpd or public water system wells	300 ft	300 ft	300 ft	150 ft	150 ft	150 ft
Potable Water Supply	100 ft [a]	200 ft	300 ft	50 ft	100 ft	100 ft
Water supply line	10 ft	18 ft	25 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft
Water body/course, major	100 ft [c][f]	200 ft [d]	300 ft [c]	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
Water body/course, minor	50 ft [d]	100 ft [d]	150 ft [d]	50 ft [d]	50 ft [d]	50 ft [d]
Drainage ditches	25 ft	50 ft	75 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft
Edge of fill extension-- Coastal wetlands, wetlands of special significance, significant vernal pools	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]
Slopes greater than 3:1	10 ft	18 ft [e]	25 ft [e]	N/A	N/A	N/A
No full basement [e.g. slab, frost wall, columns]	15 ft	28 ft	40 ft	8 ft	14 ft	20 ft
Full basement [below grade foundation]	20 ft	30 ft	40 ft	8 ft	14 ft	20 ft
Property lines	10 ft [b]	18 ft [b]	20 ft [b]	10 ft	15 ft	20 ft
Burial sites or graveyards, measured from the toe of the fill extension	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft
Stormwater infiltration systems	100 ft [g]	200 ft [g]	300 ft [g]	100 ft [g] [f]	100 ft	100 ft
Wetponds, retention ponds, and detention basins (excavated below grade); Soil filters, underdrained swales, underdrained outlets, and similar structures	50 ft	100 ft	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Stormwater detention basins (basin bottom at or above predevelopment grade)	25 ft	50 ft	75 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft

Notes: If the disposal system application meets the requirements of the following note(s) a New System Variance is not required.

[a.] Potable water supply setbacks may be reduced as prescribed in Section 701.0.

[b.] Additional setbacks may be needed to prevent fill material extensions from encroaching onto abutting property.

[c.] Additional setbacks may be required by local Shoreland zoning.

[d.] Natural Resource Protection Act requires a 25 feet setback, on slopes of less than 20%, from the edge of soil disturbance and 100 feet on slopes greater than 20%. See Chapter 15.

[e.] The fill extension must reach the existing ground before the 3:1 slope or within 100 feet of the disposal field.

[f.] The fill extension must not be closer than 75 feet from the water body/course, major.

[g.] This setback distance is equivalent to Section 3.b in Appendix D of the Stormwater Management Rules (06-096 CMR 500).

DISPOSAL SYSTEM SETBACKS

TABLE 700.3
Setback distances for expansions outside the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses.

Site features vs disposal system components of various sizes	Disposal Fields (total design flow)			Septic Tanks and Holding Tanks (total design flow)		
	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd
Wells with water usage of 2000 or more gpd or public water system wells	300 ft	300 ft	300 ft	150 ft	150 ft	150 ft
Potable Water Supply	60 ft [a]	100 ft	150 ft	25 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Water supply line	10 ft	20 ft	25 ft [f]	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft [f]
Water body/course, major	60 ft [c]	120 ft [c]	180 ft [c]	25 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Water body/course, minor (e)	25 ft [d]	50 ft [d]	75 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]
Drainage ditches	12 ft	25 ft	35 ft	12 ft	12 ft	12 ft
Edge of fill extension-- Coastal wetlands, wetlands of special significance, significant vernal pools	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]
Slopes greater than 3:1	10 ft [b] [e]	18 ft [b] [e]	25 ft [b] [e]	N/A	N/A	N/A
No full basement [e.g. slab, frost wall, columns]	7 ft	15 ft	20 ft	5 ft	7 ft	10 ft
Full basement [below grade foundation]	10 ft	15 ft	20 ft	5 ft	7 ft	10 ft
Property lines	5 ft [b]	9 ft [b]	10 ft [b]	4 ft [b]	7 ft [b]	10 ft [b]
Burial sites or graveyards, measured from the toe of the fill extension	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft
Stormwater infiltration systems	80 ft [f]	160 ft [f]	240 ft [f]	25 ft [f]	80 ft [f]	80 ft [f]
Wetponds, retention ponds, and detention basins (excavated below grade); Soil filters, underdrained swales, underdrained outlets, and similar structures	50 ft	100 ft	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Stormwater detention basins (basin bottom at or above predevelopment grade)	25 ft	50 ft	75 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft

Notes:

[a.] Potable water supply setbacks may be reduced as prescribed in Section 701.2.

[b.] Additional setbacks may be needed to prevent fill material extensions from encroaching onto abutting property.

[c.] Additional setbacks may be required by local Shoreland zoning.

[d.] Natural Resource Protection Act requires a 25 feet setback, on slopes of less than 20%, from the edge of soil disturbance and 100 feet on slopes greater than 20%. See Chapter 15.

[e.] The fill extension shall reach the existing ground before the 3:1 slope or within 100 feet of the disposal field.

[f.] See Section 1402.10 for special procedures when these minimum setbacks cannot be achieved.

TABLE 700.4
Setback distances for expansions within the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses.

Site features vs disposal system components of various sizes	Disposal Fields (total design flow)			Treatment Tanks (total design flow)		
	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd
Wells with water usage of 2000 or more gpd or public water system well	300 ft	300 ft	300 ft	150 ft	150 ft	150 ft
Potable Water Supply	60 ft [a]	100 ft	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Water supply line	10 ft [e]	20 ft [e]	25 ft [e]	10 ft [e]	10 ft [e]	10 ft [e]
Water body/course, major-	80 ft [b]	160 ft [b]	240 ft [b]	25 ft	80 ft	80 ft
Water body/course, minor (e)	35 ft [c]	70 ft [c]	105 ft [c]	35 ft [c]	35 ft [c]	35 ft [c]
Drainage ditches	12 ft	25 ft	35 ft	12 ft	12 ft	12 ft
Edge of fill extension-- Coastal wetlands, wetlands of special significance, great ponds, rivers, streams significant vernal pools	25 ft [c]	25 ft [c]	25 ft [c]	25 ft [c]	25 ft [c]	25 ft [c]
Slopes greater than 3:1	10 ft [d]	18 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	N/A	N/A	N/A
No full basement [e.g. slab, frost wall, columns]	7 ft	15 ft	20 ft	5 ft	7 ft	10 ft
Full basement [below grade foundation]	10 ft	15 ft	20 ft	5 ft	7 ft	10 ft
Property lines	5 ft [c]	9 ft [c]	10 ft [c]	4 ft [c]	7 ft [c]	10 ft [c]
Burial sites or graveyards, measured from the toe of the fill extension	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft
Stormwater infiltration systems	80 ft [f]	160 ft [f]	240 ft [f]	25 ft [f]	80 ft	80 ft
Wetponds, retention ponds, and detention basins (excavated below grade); Soil filters, underdrained swales, underdrained outlets, and similar structures	50 ft	100 ft	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Stormwater detention basins (basin bottom at or above predevelopment grade)	25 ft	50 ft	75 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft

Notes:

[a.] Potable water supply setbacks may be reduced as prescribed in Section 703.0.

[b.] Additional setbacks may be required by local Shoreland zoning.

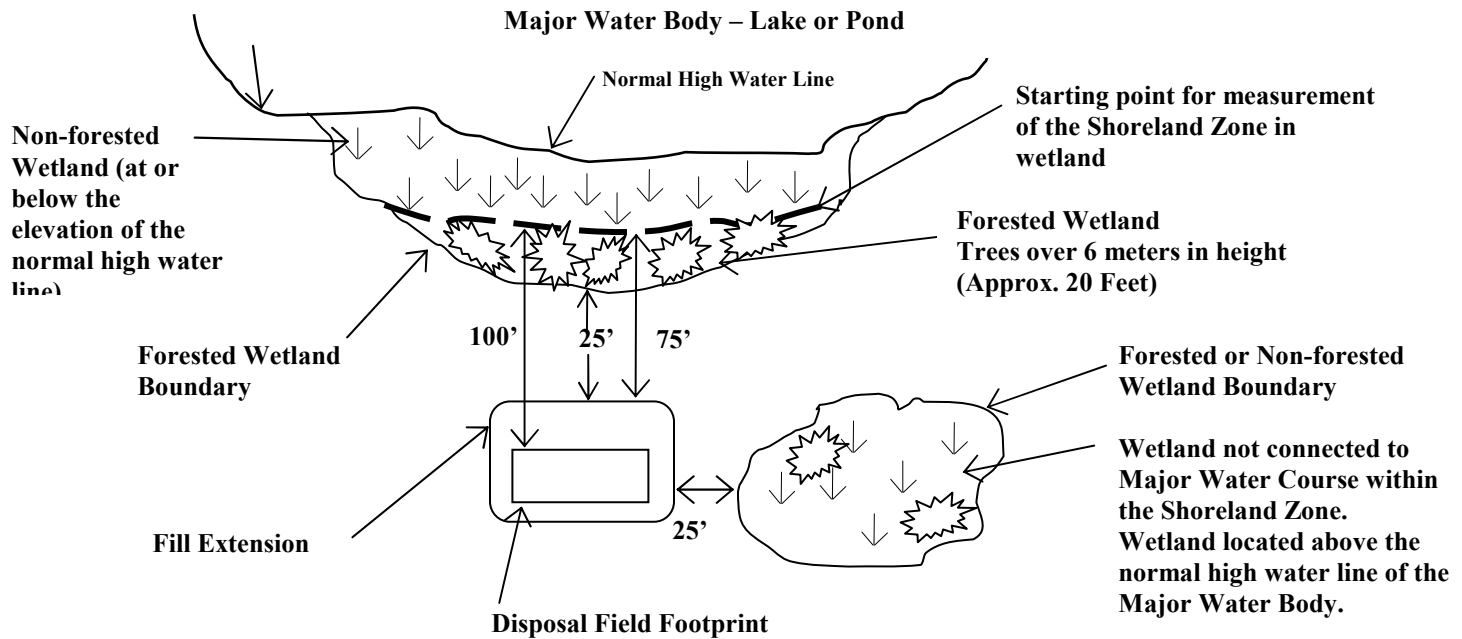
[c.] Natural Resource Protection Act requires a 25 feet setback, on slopes of less than 20%, from the edge of soil disturbance and 100 feet on slopes greater than 20%. See Chapter 15.

[d.] The fill extension must reach the existing ground before the 3:1 slope or within 100 feet of the disposal field.

[e.] See Section 1402.10 for special procedures when these minimum setbacks cannot be achieved.

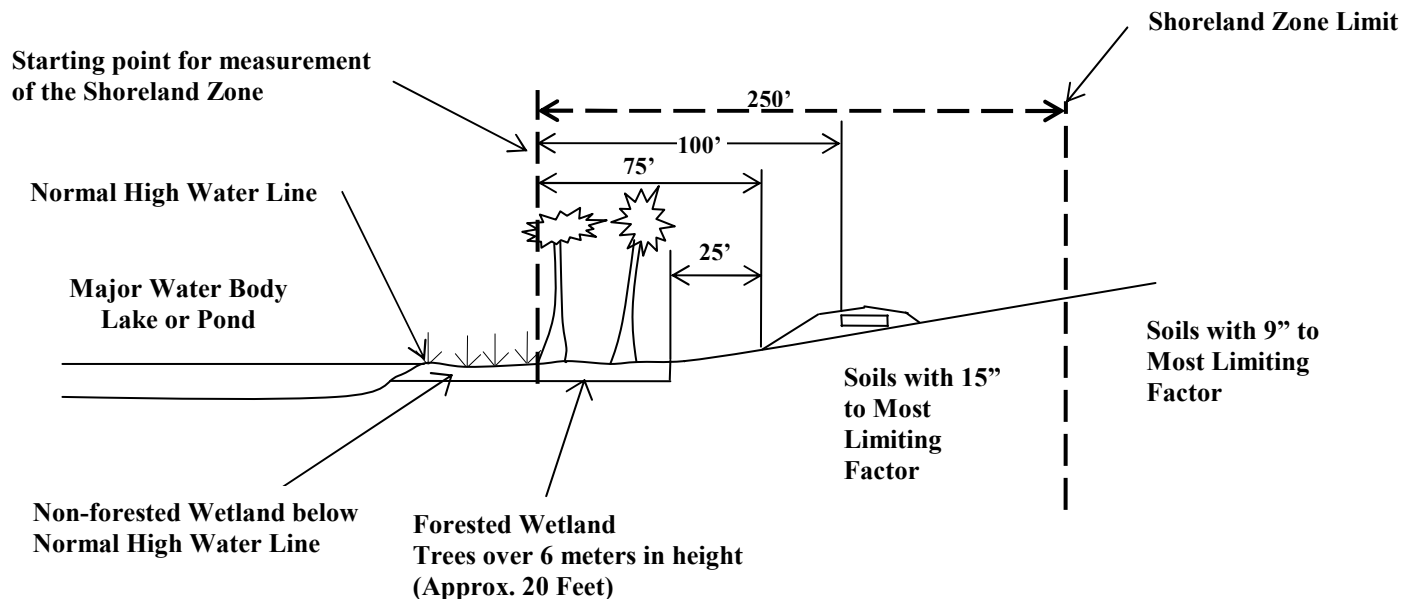
[f] This setback distance is equivalent to Section 3.b in Appendix D of the Stormwater Management Rules (06-096 CMR 500)

Figure 700.1 First Time System Adjacent to Freshwater Wetlands in the Shoreland Zone – Plan View
Municipality or LURC may include additional or other Shoreland Zoning requirements



Major Water Bodies that are RIVERS with adjacent floodplain wetlands:

The shoreland zone begins at upland edge of the non-forested, 100-year floodplain wetlands (these are considered to be part of the river)



Non-Forested Freshwater Wetland or a combination of wetland and water body of at least 10 acres:

The starting point for measuring the shoreland zone is the upland edge of the wetland; or the edge (transition zone) of where the wetland becomes a forested wetland.

Figure 700.2 First Time System Adjacent to Freshwater Wetlands in the Shoreland Zone – Cross Section

Municipality or LURC may include additional or other Shoreland Zoning requirements

Figure 700.3 - First Time System Adjacent to a Major Water Course

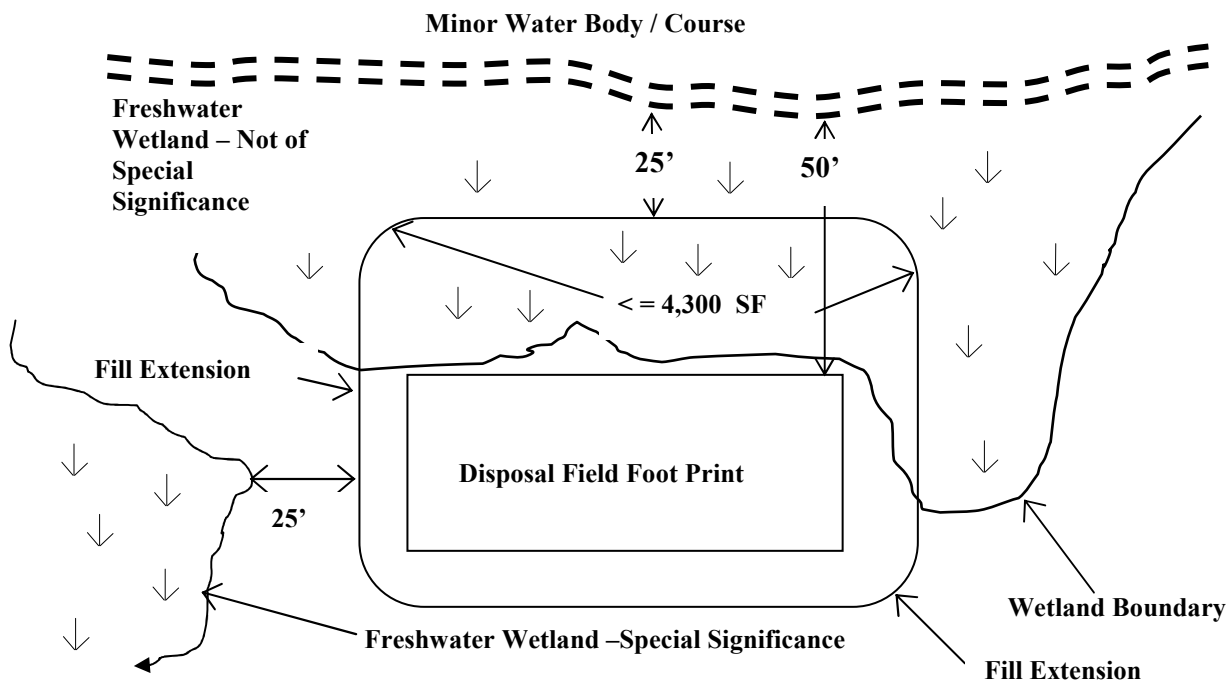
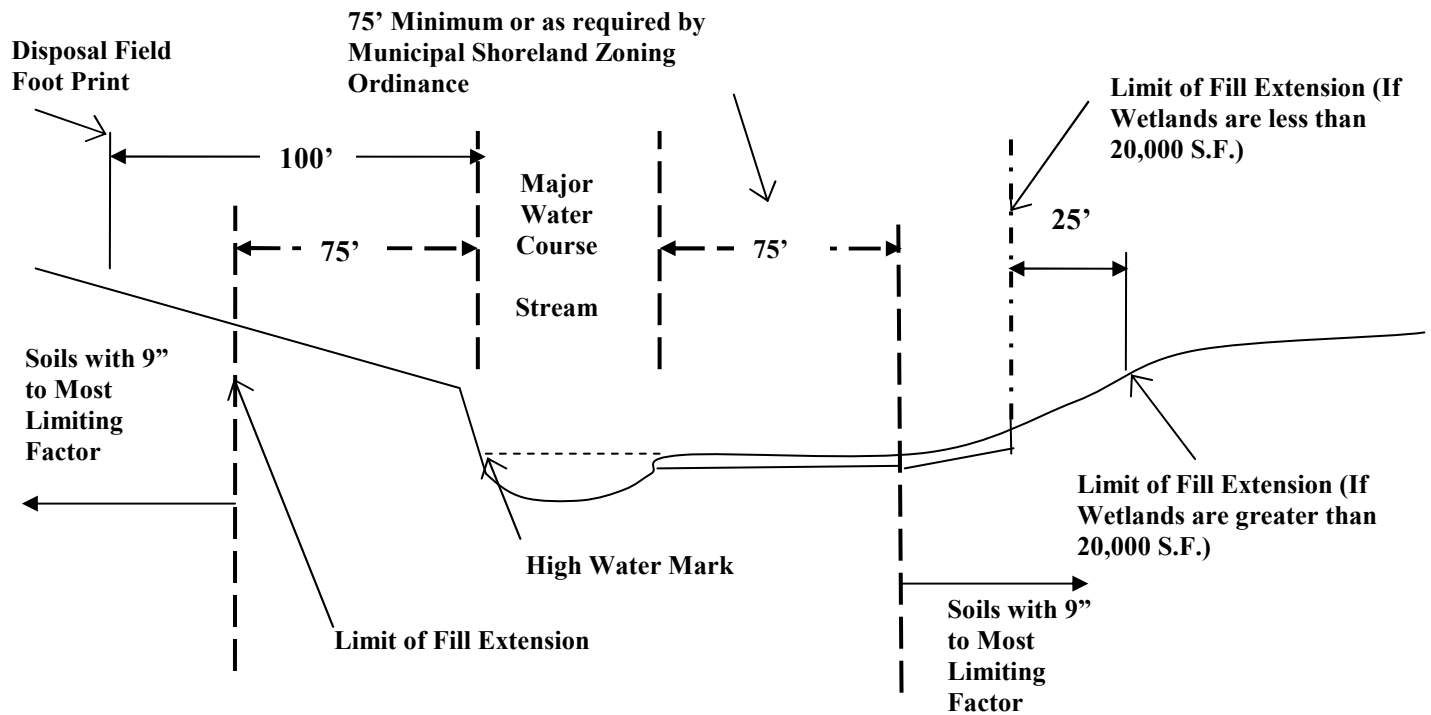


Figure 700.4 -First Time System Adjacent to Freshwater Wetlands Outside the Shoreland Zone

DISPOSAL SYSTEM SETBACKS

CHAPTER 8

DISPOSAL FIELD CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

SECTION 800.0 GENERAL

800.1 Intent: This Chapter governs the installation of disposal fields.

800.2 General: On sites with fine soil textures, excavations that expose the bottom and sidewall area of the disposal field must not be carried out when the soil moisture content is above the plastic limit except when correcting a nuisance, there is no practical alternative, the plumbing inspector agrees and special construction techniques are used. The absolute plastic limit can be estimated by rolling the soil with the fingers. If the soil forms a wire or rod 1/8th of an inch in diameter and does not crumble when handled, the soil moisture content is too high to proceed with the excavation.

800.3 Dig Safe Law: The "Dig Safe Law" 23 MRSA §3360-A places certain notification requirements on any person doing excavations. Excavation is broadly defined to mean any operation in which earth, rock or other material on or below the ground is moved or otherwise displaced by means of power tools, power equipment or explosives and including grading, trenching, digging, ditching, drilling, auguring, tunneling, scraping and cable or pipe driving, except tilling of the soil and gardening or agricultural purposes.

For a free Dig Safe in Maine information kit, contact the Maine Public Utilities Commission: 1-800-452-4699
www.state.me.us/mpuc - email: maine.puc@maine.gov.

SECTION 801.0 SITE PREPARATION

801.1 Site preparation requirements: Prior to the placement of any backfill material, the ground surface must be prepared as follows:

801.2 Soil erosion and sediment control: In areas adjacent to a water body or wetlands, preventative erosion and sediment control measures should be employed consistent with Section 1504.0.

801.3 Clearing: Vegetation must be cut and removed from the area where backfill material is to be placed.

801.4 Scarify the site: Where possible, the area under the disposal field and backfill extensions must be plowed or disked to produce a thoroughly roughened surface. Plowing must be done parallel to the topographic contour in such a direction that each plow furrow will be thrown up-slope. The soil should be broken up to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. Alternatively, a roto-tiller or the teeth of a backhoe may be used.

801.5 Transitional horizon: On sites where the backfill material is coarser than the original soil, a minimum of 4 inches of backfill materials must be mixed (by plowing, disking or roto-tilling) into the original soil to form a transitional horizon beneath the disposal area footprint and all side and down slope fill extensions.

801.6 Fill large holes: If large holes are left as a result of stump and/or stone removal, these holes must be filled with suitable backfill material that meets the requirements of Subsection 803.2.

801.7 Surface water diversion: Surface water must be diverted away from the disposal field site.

SECTION 802.0 EXCAVATION

802.1 Excavation requirements: Any excavation required for the installation of a disposal field must comply with all the requirements in this Section.

802.2 Bottom of disposal field: The bottom of each disposal field must be installed at the elevation specified on the permit. It must be maintained to a level grade no greater than 2 inches within 100 feet. Note: The bottom of a disposal field serves as the final stage of the distribution network.

802.3 Avoid unnecessary compaction: Excavation must be carried out in a manner that will avoid unnecessary compaction of both sidewalls and bottom area. Heavy equipment, especially rubber tired vehicles such as front-end loaders, should not be driven over the exposed bottom of the disposal field. Excavation should be carried out, when possible, by a back-hoe operating from outside the perimeter of the previously excavated portions of the disposal fields.

802.4 Reopen smeared or compacted bottom or sidewall surfaces: If any portion of the bottom or sidewalls becomes smeared or compacted, that portion must be scarified to reopen soil pores. Rototilling may be necessary to reach the limit of compacted soil depth.

802.5 Weather conditions: Work should be scheduled so that excavated areas are not exposed to rainfall or wind-blown silt. Any loose soil or debris that is washed or otherwise deposited within the excavation must be carefully removed prior to backfilling. Additionally, disposal fields should not be installed in frozen ground or when the ambient air temperature is below freezing, especially if construction will take place over several days.

SECTION 803.0 INSTALLATION

803.1 Construction: The installer of the system shall make certain that the system and all its component parts are installed in conformance with the requirements of this code, the plan prepared by the site evaluator, and with any special engineering design requirements approved or required by the Department under Chapter 19.

803.2 Soil and backfill material: The installer of the system shall make certain that the construction and installation are performed without adversely affecting the capacity of the soil or backfill material to adequately absorb or treat the septic tank effluent.

DISPOSAL FIELD CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

SECTION 804.0 BACKFILL PLACEMENT FOR DISPOSAL AREAS INCLUDING FILL EXTENSIONS

804.1 General: Selection and placement of backfill must comply with the requirements of this section.

804.2 Backfill standards: The backfill material must be gravelly coarse sand which meets the following requirements:

Table 800.1 – Backfill Textural Gradation

Sieve Size	Percent Passing by Weight
3"	100
1.5"	95-100
0.75"	90-100
#4	75-100
#10	55-85
#20	30-65
#40	15-45
#60	10-25
#100	5-15
#200	2-8
Clay Fraction	0-2

(1) Field Determination of backfill: Due to the difficulty of obtaining sieve analyses and the variability of backfill material, the following procedures can be used in the field to determine the suitability of backfill material. The backfill is suitable if the soil texture is loose single grains, the individual sand grains can be readily seen (similar to salt or sugar grains) and felt, and the following conditions are observed: If squeezed in the hand when dry, it will fall apart when the pressure is released but has enough fines to stain the lines in the palm of the hand; or, if squeezed when moist, it will form a cast that will crumble when touched and bears very careful handling; and it does not form a ribbon between the thumb and forefinger but has enough fines to stain the lines in the palm of the hand.

(2) Coarser material beneath or beside disposal system: Stone meeting the requirements of Section 805.2 may be placed immediately adjacent to the disposal field provided that the rest of the backfill material meets the requirements of Subsection 804.2. If used beneath the disposal field, it must be considered part of the disposal field for determining the separation between the limiting factor and the bottom of the disposal system.

(3) Fill material placement above disposal system: Immediately above the filter fabric, hay or proprietary devices, fill is required as specified on the plans. It must be a minimum of 8 inches in thickness (including cover material).

(4) Cover material: Immediately above the backfill or fill material, at least 4" of soil or soil and soil amendment mix, suitable for establishment of a good vegetative cover, must be placed over the entire disturbed soil area, including fill extensions.

804.3 Disposal fields installed completely in the original ground: If the disposal field is completely installed in original ground, the backfill material must completely cover the disposal fields. Fill material extensions must be graded smoothly into the surrounding topography on all sides. The disposal field must be adequately crowned on level disposal fields (3% minimum grade) to allow for settling so that surface water will be allowed to drain from the site without ponding.

804.4 Disposal fields installed partially in the original ground: Disposal fields partially installed in the original ground must meet the following requirements:

(1) Extent of backfill material: The fill layer must include any backfill beneath the disposal field, the shoulders, and the backfill material extensions surrounding the disposal field on all sides.

(2) Shoulder width and slope: The minimum required shoulder width is 3 feet. The finished grade of the shoulder must be sloped at 3% away from the disposal field or conform to the slope of the finish grade of the disposal field.

(3) Sloping sites: On sloping sites, the width of the shoulder may be reduced on the up-slope side of the disposal field. In this case, the top surface of the backfill material must be kept level with or higher than the invert of the distribution pipes up to the point where the top surface of the fill material intersects with existing slope.

(4) Backfill material extension: At the outside edge of the shoulder, the backfill material must be terminated by sloping the top of the backfill layer downward at a slope specified in Tables 600.2 through 600.4 to the original ground if possible, or a man-made retaining wall, provided the retaining wall is no more than 24 inches in height and the horizontal distance from the outer edge of the fill shoulder to the retaining wall is at least ten feet.

SECTION 805.0 DISPOSAL FIELDS

805.1 Installation requirements: Disposal fields, which include in a trench configuration, must be installed in compliance with all the requirements in this Section and Section 1403.0.

(1) Pitch of distribution pipes or proprietary disposal devices: Maximum tolerance of distribution pipes or proprietary disposal devices must be no more than 2 inches in 100 feet.

(2) Spacing between distribution pipes: The space between distribution pipes for low pressure distribution must be from 75 to 80% of the hole spacing. Spacing must be equal and uniform.

(3) Holes in low pressure distribution pipes: The holes in low pressure distribution pipes must be equal and uniform. The holes must be aligned so that holes in adjacent distribution pipes are offset by 50% of the hole spacing.

(4) Proprietary devices: Proprietary disposal devices approved by the Department as substitutes for disposal field stone and perforated distribution pipes must be installed per the manufacturer's instructions.

805.2 Disposal field stone: The stone used in disposal fields must meet the following requirements:

(1) General: Where used, the stone must cover the distribution pipes and extend the full width and length of the disposal field.

(2) Minimum thickness: The disposal field stone depth for beds must extend at least 7 inches beneath the bottom of the distribution pipes and must extend at least 1 inch above the top of the distribution pipes. For disposal trenches, disposal field stone depth must extend at least 12 inches beneath the bottom of the distribution pipes and must extend at least 1 inch above the top of the distribution pipes.

(3) Stone requirements: The disposal field stone must be clean, uniform in size and free of fines, dust, ashes, or clay. It must conform to one of the nominal stone sizes listed in Table 800.2.

TABLE 800.2
Maximum Percent passing by weight

		Nominal Stone Size	
		1 ½"	¾"
Sieve Size	2"	100	100
	1 ½"	95 - 100	100
	¾"	0 - 40	90 - 100
	1/2"	0 - 20	0 - 55
	3/8"	0 - 8	0 - 25
	#4	0 - 5	0 - 10
	#200	0 - 2	0 - 2

(3)(1) Stone specifications: A site evaluator may define a more stringent standard for stone size for any particular system.

(4) Placing stone: The disposal field stone may be loaded onto the disposal field site using a back-hoe, front-end loader, or dump truck. This operation must be carried out from the sides of the disposal field rather than by driving onto the prepared area of the disposal field. In the case of large disposal fields, tracked equipment may be operated within the disposal field. This equipment must not exert a ground pressure in excess of eight pounds per square inch. The disposal field stone must be pushed in front of the vehicle such that a minimum of

one foot of stone is maintained beneath the vehicle track and the original soil surface.

805.3 Covering the disposal field stone: The disposal field stone must be covered with a layer of filter fabric or two (2) inches of hay as the laying of the distribution pipes progresses.

805.4 Covering the stone with filter fabric:

(1) Overlapping filter fabric sheets: Edges of adjacent sheets of fabric must be overlapped by a minimum of 6 inches; and

(2) Fabric requirements: The filter fabric specified in the system design must have: adequate tensile strength to prevent ripping during installation and backfilling, adequate air permeability to allow free passage of gases; and adequate particle retention to prevent downward migration of soil particles into the disposal field. The minimum physical properties for the fabric must be 4.0 ounces/square yard (per ASTM D-3776).

805.5 Covering the stone with hay: In order to prevent the movement of fine particles into the stone, hay must be evenly placed in 2" layers over the entire surface above the stone.

805.6 Waterproof paper prohibited: The use of waterproof paper is prohibited.

SECTION 806.0 FINAL GRADING

806.1 General: Final grading for vegetative stabilized disposal areas must be carried out in compliance with the requirements of this Section.

806.2 Cover material: At least 4 inches of soil or soil/soil amendment mix, suitable for establishment of a good vegetative cover must be placed over the entire filled area including the fill material extensions.

806.3 Final grading: Final grading must be completed in such a manner that surface water will not collect over the disposal field.

806.4 Erosion control: Immediately after completion of final grading, the fill material surface must be stabilized by mulching and seeding, or sodding, to establish a good vegetative cover to prevent erosion.

(1) Vegetative covers: Grass, clover, trefoil, vetch, perennial wild flowers, or other herbaceous perennials may be utilized for disposal field surfaces.

(2) Other covers: Bark chips, woodchips, and other organic materials may be used as cover material when specified by the designer.

(3) Woody shrubs and trees: Woody shrubs or trees are unacceptable on disposal field surfaces. Woody shrubs may be used in conjunction with a hardy perennial ground cover on backfill material extensions only.

DISPOSAL FIELD CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

SECTION 807.0 CURTAIN DRAINS

807.1 Requirements: Curtain drains, when required, must be up-slope of the disposal field, approximately perpendicular to the flow of ground water, intercepting and diverting groundwater away from the disposal field.

807.2 Setbacks: The minimum distance between the disposal field and a curtain drain must be as follows;

807.3 Setback up-slope: A minimum setback distance of 10 feet must be maintained between a curtain drain and the up-slope edge of a disposal field. The curtain drain must be located beyond the toe of the uphill fill extension if the uphill extension is greater than 10 feet and constructed so that the curtain drain is located to prevent any under drain of the disposal field.

807.4 Setback cross-slope: A minimum setback distance of 15 feet must be maintained between a curtain drain and the ends of a disposal field and constructed so that the curtain drain is located to prevent any under drain of the disposal field.

807.5 Free-flowing outlets: Free-flowing outlets must be provided down-slope of the curtain drain extensions. Outlets must meet the following requirements:

(1) **Discharge point:** Outlets may empty into a drainage swale discharging to a surface water body, a groundwater recharge basin, or a gravel bed;

(2) **Outlet design:** Outlets must be designed, installed, located, and maintained in a manner that does not cause soil erosion, surface flooding, or damage to adjacent properties, does not create a public nuisance, and does not violate any applicable Federal, State, or local laws or regulations; and

807.6 Rodent control: Adequate measures must be taken to protect each outlet from the entry of rodents or other small animals.

807.7 Fill requirements: Fill material over the curtain drain discharge pipes must be of earth of a texture that is similar to or coarser than that found at the site and free of large stones, stumps, broken masonry, or other waste construction material.

SECTION 808.0 SEPARATION DISTANCE BETWEEN DISPOSAL FIELDS

808.1 Minimum separation distance between disposal fields: Disposal fields, whether part of a single system or two or more discrete systems, must be separated by a minimum of 5 feet, as measured along the contour, or one half the width of the widest adjacent disposal fields; whichever is greater. Disposal trenches consisting of disposal field stone must be separated by a minimum of 3 feet.

808.2 Setbacks for multiple disposal systems: When there are two or more disposal systems (includes trenches) on a single property, separated by less than 100 feet from each other, and the combined wastewater flow exceeds 1,000 gallons per day; each disposal system must meet the setback requirements for the total design flow.

CHAPTER 9

TREATMENT TANKS, DOSING TANKS, AND GREASE INTERCEPTORS

SECTION 900.0 GENERAL

900.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design, installation, repair, and maintenance of septic tanks, aerobic treatment tanks, dosing tanks and grease interceptors.

900.2 Abandoned septic tanks: The property owner or property owner's agent is responsible for seeing to it that the contents of all abandoned septic tanks are pumped and disposed of properly. The top or entire septic tank must be removed and the remaining portion of the septic tank or excavation must be filled immediately.

SECTION 901.0 SEPTIC TANK REQUIRED

901.1 General: Wastewater must be treated by an approved septic tank prior to being discharged into a disposal field, unless the applicant receives a primitive system permit as described in Section 1001.0, or a holding tank permit as described in Chapter 20. The use of an aerobic treatment unit or any other device in lieu of or in conjunction with a septic tank must not be permitted by the plumbing inspector without prior approval of the device by the Department.

SECTION 902.0 SEPTIC TANK CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

902.1 General: Metal septic tanks are prohibited. Septic tanks may be constructed of the following materials: reinforced poured-in-place concrete, precast reinforced concrete, fiberglass, or polyethylene. Each septic tank model must be approved by the Department.

902.2 Concrete: Concrete used in the construction of septic tanks must meet the American Concrete Institute (ACI) standards for frost resistance (ACI 318-16-4.5.1) and water-tightness (ACI 318-16-4.5.2).

902.3 Fiberglass: Prefabricated fiberglass septic tanks must meet the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard ASTM D4021.

902.4 Polyethylene: Prefabricated polyethylene septic tanks must meet the standards for materials, wall thickness, fastening of fittings, and maximum deformation under load prescribed by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) in CSA Standard CAN3-B66-M79.

SECTION 903.0 SEPTIC TANK DIMENSIONS

903.1 Liquid depth: When the tank is filled to its maximum capacity, the depth of the liquid in the septic tank must be at least 30 inches.

903.2 Air space: The interior distance between the top of the outlet pipe tee or baffle and the top of the septic tank must be at least 1 inch.

903.3 Configuration: Tanks must be constructed such that the direction of flow is along the longest inside dimensions.

903.4 Rectangular septic tanks: The inside length, measured from inside wall to inside wall, must not be less than 74 inches.

903.5 Cylindrical septic tanks: Upright cylindrical septic tanks must have a minimum diameter of 52 inches. Horizontal cylindrical septic tanks must have a minimum length of 72 inches. Their minimum width at the maximum liquid level must be 36 inches.

SECTION 904.0 INLET AND OUTLET CONNECTIONS

904.1 General: Inlet and outlet connections of each septic tank or compartment must be designed to obtain effective retention of scum and sludge. All connections and baffles must be fastened with and constructed of, or coated with, materials that are resistant to corrosion. Where pipe tees are used, the pipe tees must be sanitary pipe tees and installed in a manner that provides a lasting watertight seal between the pipe tee and the wall of the septic tank. To obtain a watertight seal, a manufactured waterproof coupling may be incorporated into the wall of the septic tank. Expanding grout that will adhere both to the pipe tee and to the body of the septic tank where the pipe tee is installed may be used instead.

904.2 Baffles: A baffle or pipe tee not less than 4 inches in diameter is required at both the inlet and the outlet of a septic tank. The bottom of the baffle or of the vertical leg of the pipe tee at the inlet end of the tank must extend below the maximum liquid level at least 20 to 30% of the total liquid depth. The baffle or pipe tee at the outlet must extend from within 1 or 2 inches of the top of the tank to at least 16 inches below the maximum liquid level. It must block the outlet so that solids and scum cannot exit from the tank. A septic tank filter may be used in lieu of the outlet baffle.

904.3 Inlet connections: The invert elevation of the septic tank inlet must be at least 2 inches higher than the invert elevation of the septic tank outlet or the outlet of the first compartment. The inverts of the inlets of subsequent compartments must be at least 1 inch above their outlets. When a baffle is used, the inlet pipe must be flush with the inside wall of the tank to prevent a buildup of solids between the inlet and the baffle.

904.4 Outlet connections: Outlet connections must be permanently fastened in place.

SECTION 905.0 ACCESS OPENINGS FOR ALL SEPTIC TANKS

905.1 All septic tanks: Access openings for septic tanks must meet the following requirements:

(1) Minimum access opening: All septic tanks must be constructed to provide an access to each tank compartment. Each access must be: at least 18 inches along the side, if square; at least 18 inches in diameter, if round; and as nearly as possible centered over the compartment.

SEPTIC TANKS, DOSING TANKS, AND GREASE INTERCEPTORS

(2) **Additional openings:** Additional inspection openings, at least 6 inches square or 6 inches in diameter must be located on the top of the tank directly above the tank inlet and outlet connections.

905.2 Single-family dwelling units: Access opening for septic tanks serving single-family dwelling units must meet the following requirements:

(1) **Access openings:** Access openings for septic tanks serving single-family dwelling units may be buried, although watertight risers to within 6" of finish grade are required in order to simplify location and maintenance. The riser must be located at the appropriate opening to facilitate pumping. The riser opening must be at least 18" in diameter over the tank cover and a separate riser at least 24" in diameter must be extended to grade if there is a pump station within the tank. Outlet baffles that utilize an effluent filter must have a riser of at least 18 inches in diameter extended to finish grade.

(2) **Septic tank covers:** Buried septic tank covers must be removable and flush with the tank top. Concrete tank covers must be chamfered on all edges. They must have a steel lifting loop equal to a #2 reinforcing bar which is cast in place and projects enough for a 1-1/2 inch diameter object to pass through the loop. Tank covers made from other materials must be lift-out, screwed, or bolted. They must have 2 pieces of 12 inch reinforcing bar laid in an "X" over each opening so a metal finder can locate the openings.

905.3 Other facilities: Access to all septic tanks serving facilities other than single family dwellings must be located at grade as described in this Section. Grade must slope away from the openings.

(1) **Compartment manholes:** Manholes must have a watertight riser of the same material as the tank. Use H-20 construction in traffic areas. Provide bolted, gas tight, or locking covers where appropriate.

SECTION 906.0 LIQUID CAPACITY OF SEPTIC TANKS

906.1 One to three family dwelling unit septic tank size: The minimum liquid capacity of the septic tanks serving one to three-family dwelling units must meet the capacity requirements of Table 906.1.

906.2 Septic tank size for other than one to three family dwelling units: When serving residential structures other than one to three family dwelling units, the liquid capacity must be a minimum of 150% of the design flow prescribed in Chapter 5 or as specified in Section 906.3, whichever is greatest. For nonresidential use the liquid septic tank capacity must be a minimum of 150% of the design flow prescribed in Chapter 5.

906.3 Minimum septic tank size: The minimum liquid capacity of an individual septic tank must be 750 gallons for any use.

906.4 Septic tanks for engineered systems: Multiple compartment or multiple septic tanks are required for institutional and commercial installations where the design flow (determined as prescribed in Chapter 5) is greater than 2,000 gallons.

**TABLE 906.1
ONE TO THREE FAMILY DWELLING UNIT SEPTIC TANK
CAPACITY**

Number of bedrooms	Minimum septic tank liquid capacity
1 Bedroom	750 gallons
2 Bedrooms	750 gallons
3 Bedrooms	1,000 gallons
4 Bedrooms	1,000 Gallons
5 Bedrooms	1,250 gallons or greater
For each additional bedroom	250 gallons per bedroom

906.5 Multiple septic tanks: Two or more septic tanks may be connected in series to obtain the minimum required liquid capacity, provided each septic tank has a capacity at least as great as the succeeding septic tank.

906.6 Multiple compartment septic tanks: Multiple compartment septic tanks must meet the following requirements:

(1) **Minimum liquid capacity:** The total liquid capacity of the multiple compartment tank must be at least 750 gallons;

(2) **Sizing the first compartment:** The first compartment must have a minimum liquid capacity at least 66% of the total required liquid capacity, determined pursuant to Subsection 906.2;

(3) **Number of compartments:** Septic tanks with total liquid capacities of less than 1,250 gallons may have only one or two compartments, while septic tanks with total liquid capacities greater than 1,250 gallons may have more than two compartments; and

(4) **Connecting compartments or multiple septic tanks:** Multiple compartments may be provided by connecting individual septic tanks in series. Where a single partitioned septic tank is used, vent holes must be installed near the top of each partition to allow free exchange of evolved gases between compartments. The two compartments must be connected by means of a pipe tee, baffle, or septic solids retainer.

SECTION 907.0 TANK INSTALLATION

907.1 Fill requirements for tank installations: The fill material around septic tanks, dosing tanks, holding tanks, aerobic treatment tanks and external grease interceptors must be free of large stones, roots, or foreign objects. It must be placed in layers and must be thoroughly tamped in a manner that will avoid undue strain on the septic tank. For prefabricated plastic or fiberglass septic tanks, the fill material must not be thicker than the thickness recommended by the manufacturer.

907.2 Minimum setback distances: Septic tanks must be located with a minimum distance between system, structure(s), and any other site elements pursuant to Chapter 7.

907.3 Anti-floatation: Provisions must be made to prevent the tanks from floating if empty.

907.4 Leakage: Provisions must be made to prevent surface and subsurface water from entering the tanks.

907.5 Traffic loading: When tanks are installed under a driveway, parking lot, in a heavily saturated soil, or other areas subject to heavy loads, the tanks must be able to withstand an H-20 wheel load.

907.6 Bedding: All tanks must be bedded on a layer of clean sand, gravel, or stone. The bedding material must extend at least 4 inches beyond the base of the tank.

907.7 Level and accessible: All tanks must be set level and, if an elevation and location is specified on the HHE-200 Form, at that elevation. Tanks must be readily accessible for maintenance and cleaning.

907.8 Testing: All tanks with a seam below the outlet invert installed 50 feet or less from the high water mark of a major water body/course or a private potable water supply, or less than 150 feet from a public water supply must be tested in place according to the following procedure:

- a. The tank is to be filled with water to the outlet invert;
- b. After 24 hours, the water level must be topped off to the outlet invert;
- c. After 4 hours, the depth from the water surface to the top of the outlet invert is measured. If the value is 1 inch or less, the tank is deemed water-tight.

SECTION 908.0 AEROBIC TREATMENT UNITS

908.1 General: The use of an aerobic treatment unit or any other device in lieu of or in conjunction with a septic tank must not be permitted by the local plumbing inspector without prior approval of the device by the Department. Any aerobic treatment tank used in lieu of or in conjunction with a septic tank must bear the endorsement of the National Sanitation Foundation's Standard 40, or other endorsement accepted by the Department.

SECTION 909.0 MAINTENANCE AND SLUDGE DISPOSAL

909.1 Maintenance: Septic tanks and other treatment tanks should be regularly maintained. As a general rule, the tank contents should be removed whenever the sludge and scum occupies one-third of the tank's liquid capacity.

909.2 Septage disposal: All septage must be disposed of at a location approved by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

SECTION 910.0 SEPTIC TANK CLEANERS AND DEGREASERS

910.1 The use of septic tank degreasers prohibited:

The Department does not recognize any product as being beneficial to the operation of a disposal system. The use of septic tank additives containing halogenated hydrocarbon compounds is prohibited by law. See Title 33 MRSA §1602.

SECTION 911.0 DOSING TANKS

911.1 General: All dosing tanks must be watertight. Materials and construction specifications are the same as those specified for septic tanks in this Chapter. Manholes for dosing tanks must terminate a minimum of 4 inches above the ground surface.

911.2 Frost protection: In cases where the dosing tanks will be installed above the maximum expected depth of frost penetration, dosing tanks shall be protected with at least 2 inches of high density expanded rigid polystyrene.

911.3 Dosing compartments: When a dosing compartment is located inside a septic tank, the dosing compartment must not reduce the minimum tank liquid capacity required in Section 906.0.

911.4 Additional requirements: See Sections 1406.0 and 1407.0.

SECTION 912.0 EXTERNAL GREASE INTERCEPTORS

912.1 General: Any new commercial or institutional food preparation facility, such as a restaurant, cafeteria, or institutional kitchen served by a subsurface wastewater disposal system, must install an external grease interceptor. Any converted or expanded facility requires an external grease interceptor except when not practical as determined by the Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI); in which case an internal grease interceptor must be used meeting the requirements of the Maine Plumbing Code.

912.2 Location: The external grease interceptor must be installed in a separate line serving that part of the plumbing system into which the external grease will be discharged. The external grease interceptor must be located close to the source of the wastewater, (to keep the grease from solidifying). External grease interceptors must be installed with an access cover to the surface and located, designed and installed in a manner that will permit easy access for inspection, repair, and cleaning.

912.3 Sizing the external grease interceptors for restaurants: Equation 912.3 must be used to determine the minimum size of external grease interceptors serving restaurants.

SEPTIC TANKS, DOSING TANKS, AND GREASE INTERCEPTORS

Equation 912.3

$$Q=[D][HR/2][GL][ST][LF]$$

where:

Q is the liquid capacity of external grease interceptor, gallons;

D is the number of seats in dining area;

HR is the number of hours open per day;

GL is the gallons of wastewater per meal, typ. 2.5 gallons

ST is the storage capacity, normally 2; and

LF is a loading factor depending on restaurant location;

LF is 1.25 for interstate freeways;

LF is 1.0 for recreation areas;

LF is 0.8 for State numbered roads; and

LF is 0.5 for other roads and highways.

tank installed in series, or c) the use of septic tank outlet filters, and d) must be included in the system design to prevent suspended solids from entering the disposal field.

912.4 Sizing the external grease interceptors for cafeterias and institutional kitchens: Equation 912.4 must be used to determine the minimum size of external grease interceptors serving cafeterias and institutional kitchens.

Equation 912.4

$$Q=[M][GL][ST][LF]$$

where:

Q is the liquid capacity of external grease interceptor, gallons;

M is the total number of meals served per day;

GL is the gallons of wastewater per meal, typ. 2.0 gallons

ST is the storage capacity, typ. 2; and

LF is a loading factor depending on type of facilities present:

LF is 1.0 with dish washing; and;

LF is 0.5 without dish washing.

912.5 Minimum size: In no case may an external grease interceptor serving a restaurant, cafeteria, or institutional kitchen be smaller than 750 gallons liquid capacity.

912.6 Construction: The minimum requirements for construction, materials, and foundations of external grease interceptors are the same as those required for septic tanks. The installation must be in accordance with Section 907.0.

912.7 Outlet baffle of grease trap: The outlet of the external grease interceptor must be provided with pipe tee baffle extending to a depth of 12 inches above the tank floor and well above the maximum liquid level. A septic tank filter may be used in lieu of the outlet baffle.

912.8 Maintenance: All external grease interceptors must be routinely inspected to determine the volume present. All external grease interceptors must be cleaned when the volume of external grease equals no more than 50% of the liquid capacity of the tank.

SECTION 913.0 IMPACT OF GARBAGE DISPOSALS ON SEPTIC TANK PERFORMANCE

913.1 Garbage disposal: Garbage disposals should not be used with disposal fields. However, if such units are proposed to be used, other measures must be taken such as: a) increasing septic tank capacity by a minimum of 30%, b) the installation of a second septic

CHAPTER 10

PRIMITIVE & LIMITED DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, ALTERNATIVE TOILETS, AND SEPARATED LAUNDRY SYSTEMS

SECTION 1000.0 GENERAL

1000.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design and installation of primitive systems, limited systems, and alternative toilets.

(1) Definitions: A primitive disposal system consists of a gray-water disposal field designed to handle hand carried or hand pumped water only and an alternative toilet. A limited system consists of a gray-water disposal field to handle water supplied from elevated storage tanks or cisterns, of no more than 1000 gallons capacity, and portable pumps, among other non-conventional pressurized water supplies.

(2) Use of alternative toilets: An alternative toilet must be used if a primitive or limited disposal field is used. An alternative toilet may also be used with a conventional disposal system.

1000.2 Design flows: The design flow for a primitive system is 25 gallons of gray wastewater per day. The design flow for a limited system is 50 gallons of gray wastewater per day.

1000.3 Sizing primitive and limited disposal fields: A primitive or limited disposal field must be sized pursuant to Table 501.0 and Section 1000.2. They must be installed in compliance with requirements of Chapters 6 and 8.

1000.4 Building sewer: The building sewer must have a diameter of 2 inches, and a minimum pitch of ¼ inch per foot (2 percent).

SECTION 1001.0 PRIMITIVE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1001.1 Requirement: A primitive system may be used where the primitive system will serve a structure for which the water supplied to not more than three (3) gray wastewater fixtures is hand carried or hand pumped. Allowable fixtures are limited to lavatory, shower/tub or sink. No other plumbing fixtures may be connected to the primitive disposal field. A septic tank is not required.

1001.2 Backup system reserve area required: The Site Evaluator shall delineate on the application (HHE-200) a reserve area where a full size disposal area can be installed in compliance with first time system criteria. The owner shall not take or allow any action which would prevent the use of the reserve area for a disposal area installation.

1001.3 Upgrades for systems installed prior to July 1974 outside the shoreland zone: Upgrading a disposal system located outside the shoreland zone to a full size, conventional system requires compliance with the criteria specified in Tables 600.3 and 703.

1001.4 System upgrades (post July 1, 1974): Upgrading a dwelling served by a primitive or limited system designed and permitted after July 1, 1974 to a full size, conventional system must meet the criteria specified in Tables 600.2 and 700.2.

SECTION 1002.0 ALTERNATIVE TOILETS FOR PERMANENT USE

1002.1 General: "Alternative toilets" may be used for the collection and treatment of human excreta provided such toilets comply with the provisions of this Section.

(1) Permits required: Permits are required for all alternative toilet installations. Portable alternative toilets do not require a permit.

(2) Types of alternative toilets: Alternative toilets include chemical toilets and privies, composting toilets, incineration toilets, pit privies, and vault privies.

(3) Site evaluation not required: In the case of an "alternative toilet" that does not discharge human excreta directly onto or into the soil, a site evaluation is not required for design of the alternative toilet.

1002.2 Disposal of contents: The contents of an alternative toilet must be removed and disposed of in a legal and sanitary manner whenever they reach the recommended capacity of the alternative toilet.

1002.3 Non-discharging toilets providing treatment and stabilization: Only non-discharging toilets that do not use water carriage, but that do provide treatment or stabilization of the wastes, may be approved for permanent on-site use. All alternative toilets must meet the requirements of this Subsection in addition to specific requirements that apply to each type of alternative toilet, given in Sections 1003.0 through 1007.0.

(1) Insects and vermin: The design and installation of all alternative toilets must prevent access by insects and vermin. Each toilet area must have a fly-tight, self-closing door and a self-closing toilet seat cover.

(2) Venting: All vents must either be gas tight or operate by means of natural convection to keep odors from the structure within which the vents function. Mechanical vents to the outside atmosphere must be screened to prevent insects and vermin from entering.

SECTION 1003.0 CHEMICAL TOILETS

1003.1 General: A chemical toilet is designed to receive, store, and stabilize human wastes through the use of chemical agents. More chemical agent must be added as needed. Access to the holding tank or vault

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must be available for cleaning purposes. The requirements of this Section are in addition to the general requirements for alternative toilets in Section 1002.0.

1003.2 Storage: A chemical toilet must have a watertight holding tank or vault for storage of wastes. The holding tank or vault must be manufactured of impervious materials.

1003.3 Venting: Chemical toilets must be vented to the outside atmosphere above the roof line of the structure housing them.

1003.4 Chemical flush toilets: Chemical flush toilets must meet the following additional requirements:

(1) **Chemical flushing agents:** The bowl of a chemical flush toilet must be flushed with chemical agent from a storage tank;

(2) **Traps:** A trap must be installed between each toilet and the holding tank that stores the wastes. If a trap is not feasible, another method of excluding odors may be installed with the approval of the Department; and

(3) **Recirculation:** Chemical flushing agents must pass into a holding tank where solids are removed before the flushing agents can be recirculated.

1003.5 Chemical privies: Chemical privies must meet the following additional requirements:

(1) **Addition of chemicals:** Chemicals must be added to the vault from outside the toilet area whenever odors or other objectionable conditions occur; and

(2) **Access to vault:** There must be access to the vault from outside the structure for the purpose of cleaning the vault.

SECTION 1004.0 COMPOSTING TOILETS

1004.1 General: A composting toilet is designed to receive, store, and compost human wastes. Stabilized (that is, composted) wastes must be removed for disposal when the toilet's storage capacity is reached. The requirements of this Section are in addition to the general requirements for alternative toilets in Section 1002.0.

1004.2 Interior capacity: The minimum interior volume of a composting toilet must be large enough to allow complete stabilization of all wastes when the toilet is used continuously at its proposed usage level.

1004.3 Waste area: Toilet wastes must be deposited into a receiving area with a self-closing, tightly fitting lid.

1004.4 Access opening: There must be a separate access, with a tightly fitting lid, through which food wastes, or other materials needed for the composting process, are routed to the composting compartment.

1004.5 Waste removal: Composted material must be removed from the storage area through a cleanout opening fitted with a tight door or lid. No cleanout may be located in a food storage or preparation area.

1004.6 Overflow: Any liquid overflow must be discharged to a primitive or conventional disposal field.

1004.7 Large capacity composting toilets: Large capacity composting toilets must meet the following additional requirements:

(1) **Construction:** Large capacity composting toilets must be configured to permit the contents to move from one area to another without spillage and without escape of odors within the structure; and

(2) **Venting:** The toilets must be vented to the atmosphere through a screened conduit with a minimum cross sectional area of 28 square inches. Venting may be by mechanical means or by extension of the vent's outlet at least 20 feet above the opening into receiving and composting areas.

1004.8 Heat-assisted composting toilets: Heat-assisted composting toilets must meet the following additional requirements:

(1) **Construction:** Heat-assisted composting toilets must have a single compartment with a tight, self-closing toilet lid;

(2) **Venting:** There must be mechanical ventilation to the outside atmosphere through a screened vent. The mechanical ventilation must control humidity and remove odors through the vent; and;

(3) **External heat source:** A heating element must be installed to maintain temperature in the optimum range for composting.

SECTION 1005.0 INCINERATION TOILETS

1005.1 General: An incineration toilet is designed to receive and evaporate/incinerate human wastes and store the sterile ash until it is removed for disposal. In addition to the general requirements for alternative toilets in Section 1002.0, incineration toilets must meet the following requirements:

1005.2 Other codes: Incineration toilets must meet all applicable fire and building codes;

1005.3 Incineration: Ignition and incineration must occur only when the tightly fitting toilet lid is closed;

1005.4 Makeup air: A blower must operate whenever incineration occurs; and

1005.5 Combustion temperature: The toilet must maintain a combustion temperature of at least 1400°F.

1005.6 Venting: To minimize odors, the vents must terminate a minimum of 24 inches above the roof or as per manufacturer's specifications, whichever is greatest.

SECTION 1006.0 PIT PRIVIES

1006.1 General: Pit privies are intended to receive and store human wastes in an excavation below the toilet(s). A pit privy must be installed in compliance with the requirements in this Section, in addition to the general requirements for alternative toilets in Section 1002.0.

1006.2 Elevation of the pit bottom: The elevation of the bottom of pit must maintain the vertical separation

distances for disposal fields prescribed in Tables 600.2 through 600.4.

1006.3 Setback distance: A pit privy must meet "disposal field" setback requirements in accordance with Chapter 7 and Tables 700.2 through 700.4. Exempted is the setback distance from structures where the pit privies may be part of the structure.

1006.4 Maintenance: Proper sanitation must be maintained in a pit privy. The pit privy building must be ventilated.

1006.5 Human excreta only: Only human body wastes may be disposed of in a pit privy.

1006.6 Upgrade: The replacement of a pit privy with a combined sewage disposal system is considered an upgrade, and must meet the criteria pursuant to Tables 600.4 and 700.4.

SECTION 1007.0 VAULT PRIVIES

1007.1 General: Vault privies are intended to receive and store human wastes until the wastes are removed for disposal. A vault privy must be installed in compliance with the requirements in this Section, in addition to the general requirements for alternative toilets in Section 1002.0, "Alternative toilets for permanent use."

1007.2 Setback distance: A vault privy must meet the setback requirements established in Subsection 705.2 and 705.2.1 and Tables 700.2 - 700.4. Exempted is the setback distance from structures where seal vault privies may be part of the structure.

1007.3 Sealed vault construction: Seal vaults must be constructed of materials meeting the requirements of Subsection 902.0.

1007.4 Sizing sealed vaults: Seal vaults must have a minimum liquid capacity of at least 500 gallons.

1007.5 Installations: Seal vaults must be installed in accordance with the requirements of Subsection 907.0.

1007.6 Maintenance: Proper sanitation must be maintained in a vault privy. The privy building must be ventilated.

1007.7 Human excreta only: Only human body wastes may be disposed of in a vault privy.

1007.8 Preventing flotation: When vault privies are installed at or below the seasonal high water table, the installer shall make sure that flotation of the vault and entrance of surface or ground water will not occur.

1007.9 Venting: Dry vault privies must provide air venting in through the toilet lid. The vent pipe must be screened to prevent entry of flies.

1007.10 Access for cleaning: The vault must be arranged for easy cleaning from outside the toilet.

SECTION 1008.0 GRAY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

1008.1 General: The plumbing inspector may approve a gray wastewater disposal system for single-family

dwelling units served by pressurized water. A gray wastewater system requires an application for subsurface wastewater disposal system completed by a licensed site evaluator and a permit to install the system. A gray wastewater system must share no components with the main system.

1008.2 Minimum requirements: Gray wastewater systems must meet the requirements of this Section.

1008.3 Only gray wastewater: Wastewater from all plumbing fixtures except water closets may be discharged to the gray wastewater disposal field designed for that purpose. Gray wastewater disposal fields may be designed and used for hot tub or swimming pool filter backwash, or backwash from water treatment devices.

1008.4 Septic tank required: A gray wastewater disposal field requires a septic tank.

1008.5 Design flow: One hundred twenty-six gallons per day (126 gpd) or 70% of the base design flow, whichever is greater, must be used as the minimum design flow for sizing a single-family gray wastewater disposal field. Fifty five gallons per day (55 gpd) or 20% of the base design flow, whichever is greater, must be used as the minimum design flow for sizing a single-family laundry disposal field. The design flow for gray water systems receiving backwash wastewater from hot tubs, swimming pools, or water treatment devices must be determined by the system designer.

1008.6 Disposal field design and construction: Gray wastewater disposal fields must meet all the requirements prescribed in this code for disposal fields.

1008.7 Drain line size: The building drain and building sewer must be 3 inches in diameter or greater, with a grade of not less than ¼ inch per foot.

CHAPTER 11

ENGINEERED DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

SECTION 1100.0 GENERAL

1100.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design and installation of engineered systems with design flows of 2,000 gpd or more, or disposing of wastewater with a combined BOD₅ and total suspended solids concentration greater than 1,400 mg/l (see Table 603.1).

SECTION 1101.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

1101.1 General: The size and/or complexity of engineered systems require that analysis, design construction, operation, and maintenance be undertaken at a level that is higher than the minimum requirements for small residential systems.

1101.2 Owner/operator: The owner/operator shall accurately describe the intended uses (present and future) for the system, and designate to the Department a Maine licensed professional engineer to serve as design engineer. The owner shall operate the system within the design parameters, except as provided for in Section 1702, Expansion or Change in Use of Existing Structures, following the designer's recommendations for inspection and maintenance, as well as any State or local regulations.

1101.3 Design engineer: The design engineer is responsible for defining the needs of the client, investigating the site, designing the system, overseeing construction, and recommending operation and maintenance practices at an appropriate level of professional practice. The design engineer shall assure that the design complies with all provisions of applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations, including those administered by public water systems in effect when the system design is completed. The design engineer shall consider the following factors to assure proper functioning under expected conditions, including, but not limited to, peak effluent flows, high water levels, minimum recharge, deep frost, power failure, etc.

1101.4 Department of Health and Human Services: The Department will conduct a desk review of the proposal, check for completeness of submittal (all necessary documents and signatures, etc.), review the reasonableness of data and assumptions, spot-check calculations, check for compliance with minimum requirements of this code and this Section, and give permission to the local government to issue the necessary permits. The Department is not responsible for the accuracy of the field data, assumptions or conclusions of the designer, the suitability of the design, or its performance. In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement dated June 1998, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will provide assistance to the Department in evaluating environmental impacts of these systems. DEP will submit comments to the Department for consideration prior to final decision.

1101.5 Local government: The local government, operating through the plumbing inspector(s), will issue the necessary permit(s) after it has received permission from the Department to do so and when it is satisfied that the pre-construction conditions shown on the design are representative of the actual conditions. The local official shall inspect the site in a timely manner in order to be able to state with reasonable assurance that the system was installed as described in the approved plans.

SECTION 1102.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGINEERED DISPOSAL SYSTEM DESIGNS

1102.1 Department approval: An engineered system requires Department approval. A preliminary discussion between the Department; the design engineer and any other consultants as appropriate shall take place to identify any specific requirements related to the application before a final submission for review and approval is made. From the preliminary discussion through acceptance of the Engineer's statement of compliance, the design engineer shall be the primary point of contact.

1102.2 Plan submission: The plans submitted to the Department must contain all the information requested on the Engineered System Application Form, required in Chapter 4, and any specific requirements identified in the preliminary discussion in addition to meeting the requirements of this Section. Two sets of plans are required, or one set of plans and one set of copies no larger than 11" x 17". Additionally, plans may be submitted on a floppy disk or compact disc in Autodesk **AUTOCAD***.dwg format, version 14 or earlier.

1102.3 Definition of the facility served: The submission must define the facility to be served, the flow of the effluent (including variations in quality and quantity), and the current and projected uses of the facility. Design flows should be measured, estimated, and compared to historical (code) values, and safety factors should be used.

1102.4 Determination of soil and site conditions: The soil conditions must be determined by a Maine Licensed Site Evaluator. The submission must show site data that represents the soil conditions under the proposed disposal field as indicated in Section 601.1 and under the down slope fill extension. The level of investigation is a function of the basic quality of the site (topography and soils) and the relative size of the system and disposal fields. Observation holes used for design purposes must be located at representative points within the proposed subsurface wastewater disposal area.

(1) Minimum number of observation holes: The number of observation holes must be sufficient to determine the soil and site characteristics beneath the entire disposal field, including the down slope fill material extensions, but must not be less than three (3) per engineered disposal field.

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1102.5 State of the art designs: The submission must be based on current acceptable practices as it relates to the design of systems.

1102.6 Contour lines: The submission must include: surficial contours, elevation of observation holes, and location of all site features within 300 feet that require consideration. Pre-development and post-development contours must be shown both in the areas to be occupied by parts of a system and for a distance of 100 feet beyond the system. The contour intervals must be no greater than 2 feet.

1102.7 Elevations: The elevation of the bottom of the disposal field(s), the original ground surface at each observation hole, and the top of the distribution pipes or proprietary disposal devices within the disposal field(s), must be established.

1102.8 Localized mounding analysis: The submission must include an analysis of the proposed system design and site hydraulics to determine that there will be an adequate vertical separation between the bottom of the disposal field and any mounded water table. This analysis must include all calculations, justification of methodology and assumptions, and other supporting data and documentation. Any additional vertical separation distance needed to offset mounding effects and maintain compliance with Section 605.0 must be stated in the mounding analysis report.

1102.9 Site transmission analysis: The submission must include an analysis of the proposed system design and site hydraulics to determine that the native soil and/or fill material will have sufficient capacity to prevent wastewater from surfacing down gradient of the disposal field. This standard does not include normal discharges of groundwater to springs, major or minor watercourses, or other surface waters and wetlands located at or beyond setback distances established in Chapter 7, or lesser setbacks approved by variance, even if these discharges may contain some amount of treated wastewater. Nothing in this paragraph may be interpreted to limit the scope or enforcement of 38 MRSA §413 or other applicable statutes.

1102.10 Operations and Maintenance Manual: The submission must include an operations and maintenance manual for the owner with written recommendations for the operation and maintenance of the system, including inspection schedules, pumping schedules, and record keeping procedures. Manufacturer's operations and maintenance manuals for devices and/or equipment may be included in this exhibit, but must not be a substitute for the exhibit.

1102.11 Pertinent laws, etc.: The submission must include evidence of compliance with all pertinent laws, ordinances, and regulations.

1102.12 Signatures: The submission and plans must bear the seal of a professional engineer licensed in Maine and the soil logs should bear the signature of a site evaluator licensed in Maine.

1102.13 System: The proposed system must be sized in compliance with Chapter 5, Chapter 6 and Chapter 9.

It must meet the minimum setback distances in Chapter 7.

1102.14 Grades: Existing and finished grade within the area of engineered disposal fields, their shoulders and fill material extensions using relative elevations referenced to a permanent system elevation reference point;

1102.15 Reserve area for first time systems: A reserve area with suitable soil conditions must be delineated on the plan and reserved for the possible expansion or replacement of the proposed engineered system.

1102.16 Pump dose volume: For engineered systems the pump-on and pump-off switches must be set at appropriate levels to provide a dose volume as required by the manufacturer. The pump-off switch must be set 6 inches above the pump intake. The pump-on switch must be set at a distance "d", in inches above the pump-off switch, that is calculated by means of Equation 1102.14.

Equation 1102.14

$$D = [1.6][V_d + V_{ap} + V_{pd}]/[A]$$

where:

D is the inches above the pump-off switch;

V_d is the required dose volume, in gallons, determined as prescribed in Subsection 1406.4;

V_{cp} is the internal volume of all distribution pipes and connector piping that will drain back into the dosing tank at the end of a dosing cycle, in gallons;

V_{pd} is the volume displacement, in gallons, of the pump and controls; and

A is the internal horizontal area of the dosing tank, in square feet. □

1102.17 Review fee: A review fee, as indicated in Table 110.2 must be submitted to the Department.

1102.18 Site location map: The submission must include a copy of the relevant section of the USGS 7.5' topographic map, if available, or 15' topographic map showing the location of the proposed engineered disposal system. The map must also indicate locations of any public and private water supply wells within 300 feet of the system.

1102.19 Other information: The Department may request additional information from the applicant through the design engineer. If the applicant fails to provide any additional information requested by the Department within 180 days of the request, the application will automatically be denied.

SECTION 1103.0 INSTALLATION AND INSPECTION

1103.1 Engineered system permit issuance: The plumbing inspector shall not issue a permit for an engineered system without first receiving a letter of approval from the Department.

1103.2 Construction inspections: The Local Plumbing Inspector shall inspect engineered disposal systems in accordance with Section 111.0. In addition, the property owner shall retain the design engineer to inspect the construction of the system. The inspection must be sufficient for the engineer to determine that the system was installed as designed.

1103.3 Engineer's statement of compliance: The design engineer shall provide the LPI, the owner and DHS with a written statement that the system was installed in compliance with this code and the conditions of the permit. Any changes from the approved drawings and specifications must be noted.

CHAPTER 12

MULTI-USER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

SECTION 1200.0 GENERAL

1200.1 Scope: This Chapter governs a multi-user (common) system designed to serve three or more parcels with structures under individual and separate ownerships, and when the disposal system is not owned entirely by one of the parties.

1200.2 Intent: A multi-user system has unique problems, including the determination of the responsible parties for repairs and other costs. Therefore, this Chapter sets forth requirements for a multi-user system in response to these problems.

SECTION 1201.0 OWNERSHIP

1201.1 General: Ownership of all parts of the multi-user system beyond the building sewer must be vested in a single and independent, legally established entity under Maine law.

1201.2 Maintenance fees: The entity may charge a maintenance or other fee to assure sufficient capitalization to meet its responsibility to maintain the multi-user system.

1201.3 Maintenance: The entity shall be liable for the operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of all parts of the system beyond the individual building sewers. It shall keep the system free of any nuisance or threat to public health or contamination of the environment.

1201.4 Right of entry: The entity shall have the right by easement to enter upon properties that are tied to the system for the purpose of servicing, maintaining, repairing, or replacing all parts of the common system.

1201.5 Authority to maintain system: The entity shall also have an access easement recorded against the properties associated with or necessary for the system. This easement must provide for servicing, repairing, or replacing all parts of the common system. The easement must also provide the authority to enter upon the area of the system and to enlarge or replace the system should such enlargement or replacement be deemed necessary or if the plumbing inspector orders such action for the purpose of abating a public nuisance.

SECTION 1202.0 INSTALLATION AND INSPECTION

1202.1 Multi-user disposal system permit issuance: The plumbing inspector may not issue a permit for a multi-user disposal system without first receiving a letter of approval from the Department.

1202.2 Review fee: A review fee, as indicated in Chapter 1, Table 110.3 must be submitted to the Department to defray the cost of review of a multi-user disposal system.

1202.3 Construction inspections: The Local Plumbing Inspector shall inspect the multi-user disposal system in

accordance with Section 111.0. In addition, the property owner shall retain the site evaluator or registered professional engineer to inspect the construction of the system. The inspection must be sufficient for the site evaluator or professional engineer to determine that the system was installed as designed.

1202.4 Inspectors Statement of Compliance: The State shall provide the LPI with a form (HHE-238A) to be given to the homeowner, or the homeowner's agent, at the time of issuing the permit. This form may be used by the owner or owner's agent to obtain a written statement from the installer or the designer, if supervising the installation, that the system was installed in compliance with this code and the conditions of the permit. If used, a signed copy of the completed form must be submitted to the municipality.

CHAPTER 13

PEAT DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

SECTION 1300.0 CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

1300.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design and installation of peat disposal systems and filters. The following sections give specifications for site-built peat systems.

1300.2 General: The complexity of site-built peat systems require that analysis, design construction, operation, and maintenance be undertaken at a level that is higher than the minimum requirements for small residential systems.

1300.3 Suitable sites: Suitable sites for installing peat disposal fields are the same as for other types of disposal fields. See Chapters 4, 6, and 7.

1300.4 Site preparation: Site preparation for peat disposal fields must be the same as it is for any disposal field authorized under this code. See Chapter 8.

SECTION 1301.0 PEAT DISPOSAL FIELD DESIGN AND INSTALLATION

1301.1 Weather: Peat disposal fields must not be installed when the ground or the peat material is frozen.

1301.2 Low pressure distribution: Low pressure distribution is not allowed in peat disposal fields.

1301.3 Minimum width: The minimum width of a peat disposal field is 5 feet.

1301.4 Maximum width: The maximum width of a peat disposal field is 20 feet.

1301.5 Maximum length: The maximum length of a peat disposal field is 50 feet with end manifold and 100 feet with central manifold.

1301.6 Distribution pipe sizing: Gravity dosed distribution pipes must consist of 4 inch diameter perforated pipe.

1301.7 Distribution pipe placement and bedding: The distribution pipes and bedding in peat disposal fields must meet the following requirements:

(1) **Distance from outer limits:** The distribution pipes must be installed 2.5 feet from the outer limits of the peat disposal field;

(2) **Distance center-to-center:** The distribution pipes must be 2.5 feet on center;

(3) **Connecting the ends of each distribution pipe:** The distribution pipes must be connected at each end with solid piping;

(4) **Distribution box:** If a distribution box is used it must be located outside the limits of the peat and meet the requirements of Section 1404.0;

(5) **Stone beneath and on the sides of the distribution piping:** The distribution pipes must be installed over the center line of a 10-inch wide and 4-inch deep layer of 3/8-inch washed crushed rock.

Additional 3/8-inch washed stone must be placed on either side of the pipe to a 3-inch width. All stone must be washed before its delivery to the site. No stone may be placed above the pipe, nor may stone extend beyond 5 inches from the center of the pipe;

(6) **Stone under the peat:** A minimum of 6 inches of 3/8-inch clean crushed rock or clean coarse sand must be placed at the bottom of the disposal bed.

(7) **Depth of peat:** There must be a minimum of 24 inches of peat below the bottom of the distribution lines and a minimum of 8 inches of peat above the top of the distribution lines.

1301.8 Compaction of the peat: The depth of peat layers depends on the moisture content at the time of the installation. At 50% moisture content (on a dry weight basis), install in 8 to 12 inch lifts. At 60% moisture, install in 12 to 16 inch lifts. The peat lifts should be hand raked and compacted until an in-place bulk density of 6.2 to 9.4 pounds/cubic foot (on a dry-weight basis) is reached. No motorized construction equipment or lawn rollers may be used to compact the peat.

1301.9 Surface treatment: No fill material may be placed over the top of the peat. Instead, the peat must extend to the mineral soil surface of the original ground, or the fill on each side, and must be crowned at a slope of 3%. The surface of the peat may be left bare, seeded with lawn grasses, or planted with shallow rooted vegetation so as to blend into the natural surroundings. Deep-rooted vegetation must not be allowed to grow on the surface of a peat disposal field.

1301.10 Vehicular and pedestrian traffic: No portion of any peat disposal field may be located under a paved area, driveway, or roadway.

SECTION 1302.0 PEAT TYPE AND CONDITION

1302.1 Type of peat: The peat should be air-dried, milled, unscreened, bulk-loaded Sphagnum peat with a pH of 3.5 to 4.5, a von Post degree of decomposition of H4, a moisture content of 50% to 60%, an organic content of 95% or greater, and an ash content of 5% or less. The peat must not have been dried to less than 40% at any time during production. Use of horticultural peat for onsite disposal systems is prohibited.

SECTION 1303.0 SIZING OF PEAT DISPOSAL FIELDS

1303.1 Soil profile vs peat disposal field application rates: The required bottom area of peat disposal fields must be determined using the following:

(1) **Soil profile 6:** Soil profile 6 requires a peat disposal field application rate of 1 square foot per gallon per day;

(2) **Soil profiles 4 and 5:** Soil profiles 4 and 5 require a peat disposal field application rate of 1.25 square feet per gallon per day;

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(3) Soil profiles 2, 3, and 7: Soil profiles 2, 3, and 7 require a peat disposal field application rate of 1.50 square feet per gallon per day;

(4) Soil profiles 1 and 8: Soil profiles 1 and 8 require a peat disposal field application rate of 1.75 square feet per gallon per day;

(5) Soil profile 9: Soil profile 9 requires a peat disposal field application rate of 2.0 square feet per gallon per day;

(6) Soil profile 11: Soil profile 11 is for alluvial soils that vary in texture. For design purposes, use the peat disposal field application rate from a soil profile listed above which best describes the texture encountered; and

(7) Site suitability: Site suitability for peat disposal fields is as prescribed in Chapter 6.

1303.2 All other aspects: In all other aspects, construction of a peat disposal field must comply with Chapter 6, unless otherwise specified.

SECTION 1304.0 UNDER-DRAINED PEAT FILTERS

1304.1 Scope: Under-drained peat filters are designed to pre-treat septic tank effluent prior to its ultimate disposal in any disposal field authorized under this code.

1304.2 Polyethylene liner: The under-drained peat filter is placed in an excavation or fill material that is lined with an 18 mil polyethylene sheeting or equivalent.

1304.3 Final disposal in a disposal field: The effluent from the peat filter is conveyed to a separate disposal field for final disposal.

1304.4 Sizing the disposal field: The disposal field used for final disposal is sized according to Chapter 5 and sized at 90% of the minimum hydraulic loading rate required in Table 600.1. Field size may be further reduced based on Section 603.0.

SECTION 1305.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

1305.1 Fencing: Fencing is required in heavy foot traffic areas such as school playgrounds, commercial establishments, or vehicular-traffic travel areas.

1305.2 Mowing: If a peat disposal field is planted with lawn grasses it should be mowed on a regular basis during the growing season with a walk-behind power or manual mower.

1305.3 Traffic: In addition to the above, peat disposal fields should be protected from the type of heavy foot traffic found on a school yard, playground, or ball court. Riding mowers, ATVs, snowmobiles, and other vehicles should not be allowed on peat disposal fields.

1305.4 Maintenance instructions: System owners shall be provided with a copy of the operation and maintenance requirements by the site evaluator.

1306.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

1306.1 General: The complexity of site-built peat systems require that analysis, design construction, operation, and maintenance be undertaken at a level

that is higher than the minimum requirements for small residential systems.

1306.2 Owner/operator: The owner/operator shall accurately describe the intended uses (present and future) for the system. The owner shall operate the system within the design parameters, as well as any relevant state or local regulations.

1306.3 Design engineer: The design engineer is responsible for defining the needs of the client, investigating the site, designing the system, overseeing construction, and recommending operation and maintenance practices at an appropriate level of professional practice. The design engineer shall assure that the system, if installed and operated within the design parameters, will function properly and in compliance with all pertinent regulations in effect or known at the time of construction. The design engineer shall review the proposed design to assure proper functioning under expected conditions, including, but not limited to, peak effluent flows, high water levels, minimum recharge, deep frost, power failure, etc.

1306.4 Department of Health and Human Services:

The Department will conduct a desk review of the proposal, check for completeness of submittal (all necessary documents and signatures, etc.), review the reasonableness of data and assumptions, spot-check calculations, check for compliance with minimum requirements of this code and this Section, and give permission to the local government to issue the necessary permits. The Department is not responsible for the accuracy of the field data, assumptions or conclusions of the designer, the suitability of the design based upon assumptions or conclusions of the designer, or the performance of the system.

1306.5 Local government: The local government operating through the plumbing inspector(s), will issue the necessary permit(s) after it has received permission from the Department to do so and when it is satisfied that the pre-construction conditions shown on the design are representative of the actual conditions. The local official shall inspect the site in a timely manner in order to be able to state with reasonable assurance that the system was installed as described in the approved plans.

SECTION 1307.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE-BUILT PEAT SYSTEM DESIGNS

1307.1 Department approval: A site-built peat system requires Department approval.

1307.2 Plan submission: The plans submitted to the Department shall contain all the information required in Chapter 4, in addition to meeting the requirements in this Section. For any supplemental plans larger than 11" x 17", one set of plans and one set of copies no larger than 11" x 17" are required.

1307.3 Definition of the facility served: The submission must define the facility to be served (i.e., residential, commercial, etc.), the flow of the effluent (including variations in quality and quantity), and the current and projected uses of the facility.

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1307.4 Determination of soil and site conditions: The soil conditions must be determined by a Maine Licensed Site Evaluator. The submission must show site data that represents the soil conditions under the proposed disposal field as indicated in Section 601.1 and the soils conditions in the down slope fill extension of engineered disposal systems. The level of investigation is a function of the basic quality of the site (topography and soils) and the relative size of the system and disposal fields. There must be sufficient knowledge of the site to determine how the system will perform.

1307.5 Elevations: The elevation of the bottom of the disposal field(s), the original ground surface at each observation hole, and the top of the distribution pipes within the peat disposal field(s) must be established.

1307.6 Pertinent laws, etc.: The submission must include evidence of compliance with all pertinent laws, local ordinances, and other regulations.

1307.7 Signatures: The submission and plans must bear the seal and/or signature of a site evaluator licensed in Maine.

1307.8 System: The proposed system must be sized in compliance with Chapter 5, Chapter 6, and Chapter 9. It must meet the minimum setback distances in Chapter 7.

1307.9 Grades: Existing and finished grade within the area of site-built peat systems, their shoulders and fill material extensions using relative elevations referenced to a permanent system elevation reference point;

1307.10 Review fee: An engineered system review fee, as indicated in Table 110.2 must be submitted to the Department to defray the cost of reviewing a site-built peat system.

1307.11 Other information: The Department may request additional information from the applicant. If the applicant fails to provide any additional information requested by the Department within 180 days of the request, the request will automatically be denied.

CHAPTER 14

PIPING

SECTION 1400.0 GENERAL

1400.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design and installation of the piping systems used to convey wastewater from the building drain to the septic tank, to the disposal field and within the disposal field.

SECTION 1401.0 DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS

1401.1 Methods of distribution: The allowed methods for discharge of septic tank effluent to the disposal field and distribution of septic tank effluent within the disposal field are as follows:

- a) Gravity flow method
- b) Gravity dosing method
- c) Low pressure dosing method and
- d) Serial dosing method

1401.2 Alternating pumps: Alternating pumps may be used to alternately dose a field or portion of a field. However, no disposal field or portion of a disposal field may receive more than the maximum daily disposal design flow allowed in Chapter 6. Alternating pumps must be installed in pump-dosed systems with design flows of more than 2,000 gpd. See Section 1408.0.

SECTION 1402.0 CONNECTING PIPES AND DELIVERY PIPES

1402.1 Sizing: The connecting pipes between the components of a system must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Gravity flow piping:** The pipes must be sized to serve the connected fixtures but in no case may be less than 3 inches in diameter (1.5 inches for primitive systems);
- (2) Pump discharge piping:** The pipes must be sized to serve the pump but in no case may have a diameter less than that required by the manufacturer.
- (3) Siphon discharge piping:** The pipes from dosing tanks using siphons must be one nominal pipe size larger than the siphon to facilitate venting.

1402.2 Piping materials: Pipes must be constructed of:

- (1) Plastic pipe:** Polyvinyl Chloride plastic (ASTM D2665), Schedule 40, SDR-21, SDR-26, or SDR-35; or Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene plastic (ASTM 2661); or Polyethylene, straight wall (ASTM D-1248)
- (2) Iron pipe:** Ductile cast-iron; or
- (3) Other pipe:** Other material permitted by the Department.

1402.3 Joints: All pipe joints must be made watertight. All joints should be tight enough to prevent entry by roots.

1402.4 Bedding the pipe: Pipes must be laid on a firm foundation. Pipes must be protected from freezing if there is any possibility of liquid remaining in the pipes.

(1) Cleanouts: At least one cleanout must be provided for every 100 feet of connecting pipe in a gravity system.

1402.5 Alignment and grade: The alignment and grade of connecting pipes must meet the following requirements:

1402.6 Minimum pitch: Connecting pipes must have a minimum grade as follows:

(1) Building sewer: The minimum pitch of the building sewer is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch per foot (2%). For pipes 4 inches in diameter or larger, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch per foot (1%) may be authorized by the plumbing inspector. The building sewer may not be smaller in diameter than the building drain.

(2) Effluent line (gravity): The minimum pitch of the gravity effluent line is $\frac{1}{8}$ inch per foot (1%).

(3) Pipe alignment: Connecting pipes must be laid in a continuous grade and as nearly as possible in a straight line. Drop manholes may be installed if found necessary. Horizontal bends, where required, must not be sharper than 45 degrees. The inside angle between adjacent sections of pipe must be no less than 135 degrees.

1402.7 Frost protection: In cases where the delivery pipe from the dosing tank will be installed higher than the maximum expected depth of frost penetration, the design shown in the application for a disposal system permit must insure that the delivery pipe will drain at the end of each dosing cycle or be provided with 2 inches of high density expanded rigid polystyrene insulation.

1402.8 Separation of a structure's water service and building sewer: A structure's water service pipe and the building sewer must be separated by undisturbed or compacted earth. The water service pipe may only be placed in the same trench as the building drain and building sewer when installed in compliance with the following requirements:

(1) Minimum vertical separation: The bottom of the water service pipe at all points must be a minimum of 12 inches above the top of the sewer at its highest point:

(2) A separate shelf for water service: The water service pipe must be placed on a solid shelf excavated at one side of the common trench; and

(3) Piping requirements: The drainage pipe must conform to one of the standards for ABS plastic pipe, ductile cast iron pipe, or PVC plastic pipe listed in Subsection 1402.2.

1402.9 Separation between public water main and building sewer: A building sewer or force main must be at least 10 feet horizontally from any existing or proposed public water main, measured edge to edge. In cases where it is not practical to maintain a 10 feet

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separation, the design shown in the application for a disposal system permit must insure that a leak in the building sewer will not contaminate the public water main. The allowed methods for protecting public water mains are described below:

(1) Separate trenches: The building sewer is laid in a separate trench, or

(2) Same trench: If the building sewer and public water main are in the same trench, the public water main must be on an undisturbed earth shelf at such an elevation that the bottom of the public water main is at least 18 inches above the top of the building sewer. Concrete encasement of the building sewer joints is required.

1402.10 Building sewer crossing a public water main: When a building sewer or force main crosses a public water main, the design shown in the application for a disposal system permit must insure that a leak in the building sewer will not contaminate the public water main. The allowed methods for protecting public water mains are described below:

(1) Gravity building sewer: One 10-foot length of building sewer pipe must be located so that both joints will be as far from the public water main as possible. The building sewer must be supported to prevent sagging and damage from backfilling. It must be protected from freezing.

(2) Force main: At least 10 feet of the force main perpendicular to the public water main must be encased in a second sewer pipe of like material with the ends sealed with concrete. The force main must be supported to prevent sagging and damage from backfilling. It must be protected from freezing.

SECTION 1403.0 DISTRIBUTION PIPES

1403.1 Gravity flow and gravity dose distribution networks: Gravity flow and gravity dosing distribution networks may consist of a single distribution pipe, two or more distribution pipes connected by means of elbows or tees, or two or more separate distribution pipes connected independently to a distribution box. Distribution pipes must meet all the requirements of this Section.

1403.2 Minimum diameter: Distribution pipes must be a minimum of 3 inches in diameter (2 inches for primitive systems).

1403.3 Piping: Distribution pipes must consist of lengths of rigid, perforated pipes connected with tight joints. Individual runs of distribution pipe must be capped at the end, unless the pipes are to be connected together by loops, header pipe, overflow pipe, or other cross-connections as specified by the system design plans.

1403.4 Perforations: There must be two rows of evenly spaced perforations running the length of the distribution pipe. The rows must be on each side of the pipe, midway between the invert and the center line that separates the upper and lower halves of the pipe; i.e., at the 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock positions. Perforations must

be no smaller than 3/8 inch and no larger than 3/4 inch in diameter.

1403.5 Pitch: Each individual distribution pipe must be set level, not to exceed a slope of 2 inches in 100 feet.

1403.6 Spacing: The distance between pipes must be no greater than 5 feet and no less than 1 foot. Pipes must be no more than 5 feet and no less than 1 foot from the sidewalls.

1403.7 Pipe material: The following materials are acceptable for distribution pipes: Plastic pipe meeting the following: Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ASTM D-2751); Polyvinyl Chloride (ASTM D-2729, D-3034); Styrene-Rubber (ASTM D-2852, D3298); or Polyethylene, straight wall (ASTM D-1248).

SECTION 1404.0 DISTRIBUTION BOXES

1404.1 General: The use of distribution boxes is optional but is encouraged to allow access for maintenance and troubleshooting purposes.

1404.2 Construction: Distribution boxes must be constructed of sound and durable materials that will resist decay or corrosion, frost damage, cracking, or buckling due to backfilling or other anticipated stresses.

1404.3 Installation: The distribution box must be set perfectly level, on a firm base, carefully backfilled to prevent settlement or other movements and must be installed as follows:

(1) Disposal fields: When possible, the distribution box should be installed directly on the disposal field stone to minimize frost disturbance.

(2) Minimum footings: For engineered systems, the distribution box must be set on a layer of gravel or on a concrete footing extending downward below the maximum expected depth of frost penetration. Where gravel is used, the gravel must extend laterally a minimum of 6 inches beyond the side of the distribution box, meet the gradation specifications of the Maine Department of Transportation Standard Specifications - Revision of December 2002 - Section 700 - Materials 703.06 Aggregate for Base and Sub-base, and must be compacted to 95% modified proctor per ASTM D2940 - 03 Standard Specification for Graded Aggregate Material For Bases or Sub-bases for Highways or Airports.

1404.4 Outlets: A separate outlet must be provided for each distribution pipe. The inverts of all outlets must be rigidly set at the same level a minimum of 1 inch above the bottom of the distribution box. When installation is complete, the distribution box must be filled with water, at which time the installation must be checked to make sure that it is level. Check to make sure that the water rests equally at the invert of each pipe. Necessary adjustments must be made to ensure that all outlets are permanently and securely fixed at exactly the same elevation prior to backfilling.

1404.5 Inlets: For gravity fed distribution boxes, the invert of the inlet must be at least 1 inch above the invert

of the outlets. When dosing is employed or when the connecting pipe from the septic tank has a steep slope, measures must be taken to prevent direct flow of septic tank effluent across the distribution box outlets. This direct flow may be prevented by installing a baffle or elbow to direct the flow to the bottom of the box within the distribution box, by connecting the inlet to the bottom of the distribution box, or by using two distribution boxes connected in series. In the latter case, all outlets of the first distribution box must be sealed off except for the outlet that discharges to the second distribution box.

1404.6 Access: Distribution boxes must be provided with a means of access. In the case of smaller boxes, access may be made by a removable lid. Access to larger boxes may be provided by means of manholes and inspection ports with removable, watertight covers. In all cases, the following requirements must be met:

- (1) **Size and location:** Access openings must be adequate in size and located to facilitate removal of accumulated solids and inspection of the inlet and all outlets.
- (2) **Access opening extensions:** All access openings must be extended to within 12 to 18 inches of the finished grade surface.
- (3) **Water-tightness:** Access openings must be constructed in a manner that prevents the entrance of water.

1404.7 Frost protection: In cases where the distribution boxes will be installed higher than the maximum expected depth of frost penetration, distribution boxes must be protected by 2 inches of high density expanded rigid polystyrene to give protection against frost penetration and freezing. In addition, entering through the bottom of the distribution box is recommended to prevent freezing associated with forced main inlets.

SECTION 1405.0 DROP BOXES

1405.1 General: The use of drop boxes is optional. Drop boxes provide an effective way to assure that serial distribution stone filled disposal fields are properly loaded. They also provide a means for monitoring the water levels in respective disposal fields. When drop boxes are used:

- (1) **Overflow elevation:** The overflow pipe to the next disposal field must be installed so that the upper disposal field is full to the invert of the distribution piping of septic tank effluent before flow spills over to the next disposal field being served from the box;
- (2) **Overflow piping:** The overflow pipe between drop boxes must be watertight. Drop boxes must be placed in a trench dug only deep enough to allow connection to the next lower drop box. The soil backfilled around the overflow pipe must be carefully compacted below and around it to prevent seepage along the pipe between disposal fields;
- (3) **Installation:** The drop boxes must be set on a firm base and carefully backfilled to prevent settlement or other movements; and

(4) **Bypass capability:** The drop boxes must be of such design that a disposal field can be removed from service and the flow shunted to the next disposal field if necessary.

1405.2 Frost protection: In cases where the drop boxes will be installed higher than the maximum expected depth of frost penetration, drop boxes must be surrounded by 2 inches of high density expanded rigid polystyrene to protect against frost penetration and freezing.

SECTION 1406.0 DOSING TANKS FOR ENGINEERED SYSTEMS

1406.1 When required: If a dosing tank with a siphon or pump is required for engineered systems using gravity or low pressure dosing, it must meet the requirements of this Section.

1406.2 Minimum liquid capacity: The minimum liquid capacity of dosing tanks using pumps must be determined as follows:

(1) **Minimum capacity:** Dosing tanks using pumps must have sufficient liquid capacity to distribute septic tank effluent equally to all parts of the disposal field during each dosing cycle. They must also provide adequate reserve storage capacity (at least equal to the minimum dosing volume) in the event of a pump malfunction. The total liquid capacity must be great enough to accommodate the minimum required dose volume, plus the minimum required reserve storage capacity determined as prescribed in Subsection 1406.3. Additional volume must be provided above the pumping level to accommodate the volume of water displaced by the pump and controls as well as any quantity of septic tank effluent that will drain back into the dosing tank when the pump shuts off at the end of a dosing cycle. To summarize, minimum dosing tank capacity is the sum of dose volume, reserve storage, pump and control displacement, and effluent drain-back.

(2) **Solid storage:** Additional volume must be provided below the pumping level so that the pump may be placed on a pedestal, above the dosing tank bottom, to prevent the pump from drawing in air or whatever solids may accumulate in the bottom of the dosing tank.

1406.3 Reserve capacity when using pumps: Reserve capacity is the inside volume of the dosing tank that lies between the level at which the high water alarm switch is set and the invert elevation of the tank inlet. A minimum reserve capacity equal to the design flow is required except where a standby pump is provided that is equivalent in performance capacity to the primary pump and that will switch on automatically in the event that the primary pump malfunctions.

1406.4 Dose volume and minimum reserve capacity: The dose volume and minimum reserve capacity for gravity-dosed disposal fields must be 15 to 25% of the design flow, the pump dose off-switch must be at least 6 inches above the pump intake.

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1406.5 Dosing tanks using a single siphon: The liquid capacity of dosing tanks using siphons must be adequate to provide the required dose volume determined as prescribed in Subsection 1406.4. No reserve capacity is required when a siphon is used.

1406.6 Requirements for all dosing tanks: All dosing tanks must meet the following requirements regardless of whether a pump or siphon is used.

1406.7 Construction: The requirements for the construction of dosing tanks must comply with those prescribed for septic tanks in Chapter 9. Dosing tanks may be constructed as a separate unit or may share a common wall with the septic tank.

1406.8 Installation: Installation requirements for pre-fabricated dosing tanks must comply with those for septic tanks, as prescribed in Section 907.0.

1406.9 Inlet elevation: Inlets must be at least 1 inch above the highest water level attained when the entire reserve capacity is full.

1406.10 Access openings: Dosing tanks must be readily accessible for service and repair. See Section 905.0.

1406.11 Backfilling: Requirements for backfilling around dosing tanks are the same as for septic tanks, as prescribed in Subsection 907.1.

SECTION 1407.0 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR DOSING WITH SIPHONS

1407.1 General: Dosing may be accomplished by means of an automatic siphon when the low water level in the dosing tank is at a higher elevation than the invert of the highest distribution pipe. All requirements in this Section must be met.

1407.2 Siphon tank outlets: Outlets for dosing tanks using siphons must conform to the manufacturer's recommendations;

1407.3 Corrosion control: Siphons must be constructed of durable materials not subject to corrosion by acid or alkali;

1407.4 Sizing dosing tanks: The horizontal dimensions of the dosing tank must be adjusted so that the volume obtained by multiplying the manufacturer's rated siphon drawing depth by the internal horizontal area of the dosing tank will be equal to the required dose volume determined as prescribed in Subsection 1102.16 or 1406.4; and

1407.5 Starting siphons: When installation is complete, the siphon must be primed and checked in the presence of the plumbing inspector by filling it with water. At this time the siphon must be checked for leaks as evidenced by air bubbles rising from the bell casing or piping. Any leaks must be repaired before final approval is given.

1407.6 Gravity dosing: In gravity dosing systems, when the delivery pipe between the dosing tank and the distribution box or distribution network is long, the siphon invert must be set at an elevation sufficiently higher than the invert of the highest distribution pipe to compensate

for any head losses due to friction in the connecting pipe. Friction head must be determined using Table 1407.7.

1407.7 Low pressure dosing: In low pressure dosing systems, the invert of the siphon must be set higher than the invert of the distribution pipes by a distance equal to the total operating head. See EPA's On-site Wastewater Design Manual for additional guidance.

1407.8 Peak inflow check: For facilities from which large quantities of septic tank effluent may be discharged at one time, the designer must make certain that the siphon discharge rate will not be exceeded by the maximum expected rate of inflow at time of peak volume.

1407.9 Cycle counter: Each siphon-equipped dosing tank must employ a cycle counter, activated by a weighted float or switch, to monitor siphon performance.

1407.10 High water alarm: Dosing tanks using siphons must be equipped with an overflow to the distribution box (or distribution network) and a high-water alarm meeting the requirements of Section 1408.0. The invert of the overflow must be just above the level of the high-water alarm switch which, in turn, must be several inches above the normal high-water level of the dosing tank.

SECTION 1408.0 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR DOSING WITH PUMPS

1408.1 General: Dosing may be accomplished by means of a pump when either gravity dosing or low pressure dosing is used. All requirements in this Section must be met.

1408.2 Duplicate pumps required: Duplicate pumps are required for systems serving multifamily residential structures or systems.

1408.3 Pump rating: The pump must be rated by the manufacturer to handle septic tank effluent.

1408.4 Minimum pump performance: Pumps used for gravity dosing systems must be rated by the manufacturer (as indicated by the manufacturer's pump performance curve) to be capable of delivering the total required dose volume within a period of 15 minutes or less when working against a total dynamic head equal to the total design operating head. For the purpose of making this determination, the total design operating head must be considered as the sum of the elevation head and the friction head calculated using Table 1407.7.

1408.5 Pump selection for low pressure dosing: Selection of an adequate pump for low pressure dosing is part of the design procedure for low pressure dosing systems.

1408.6 Solid storage: Pumps must be set on a pedestal or have legs, so that the intake is elevated several inches above the bottom of the dosing tank.

1408.7 Couplings: Easy or "quick disconnect" couplings should be used to facilitate removal of the pump for servicing.

1408.8 Peak inflow check: For facilities from which large quantities of septic tank effluent may be discharged at one time, the design must make certain that the pump discharge rate will not be exceeded by the maximum expected rate of inflow at times of peak volume.

1408.9 Pump switches: The operation of the pump must be controlled by means of automatic switches that are activated by the rising and falling level of septic tank effluent in the dosing tank. Such switches must meet the following requirements:

(1) **Switches:** Switches must be able to withstand the humid and corrosive atmosphere in the dosing tank. Mercury or weighted float type switches are suitable for this purpose. Pressure diaphragm type switches are prohibited.

(2) **Dose volume:** For single-family dwellings the dose volume for gravity-dosed disposal fields must be as per manufacturers' specifications.

1408.10 High-water alarm: A high-water alarm switch must be set 4 inches above the pump-on switch and must activate visible and audible alarms that can be readily seen and heard by occupants within the structure served. The high-water alarm switch must meet the requirements prescribed for pump-control switches in Subsections 1408.9 and 1408.9.1. The alarm and its switch must not be on the same electrical circuit as the pump and its switch.

SECTION 1409.0 VENTING

1409.1 General: Vents are not required but may be used in disposal systems. If used, vents should meet the following design and construction standards.

(1) **Location:** A vent should be installed in the distribution system at a point or points farthest from the septic tank;

(2) **Size:** A vent diameter should be equal to or greater than the diameter of the dosing piping;

(3) **Height:** A vent must extend at least 3 feet above the finished grade; and

(4) **Protection:** All vents should be screened to prevent entry of foreign objects and installed in a manner which prevents entry of rainwater.

TABLE 1407.7
Friction loss in schedule 40 plastic pipe
Feet of head loss per 100 feet of pipe

Flow	Pipe diameter in inches		
	1 1/2"	2"	3"
3 gpm	0.07 ft		
4 gpm	0.12 ft		
5 gpm	0.18 ft		
6 gpm	0.25 ft	0.07 ft	
7 gpm	0.36 ft	0.10 ft	
8 gpm	0.46 ft	0.14 ft	
9 gpm	0.58 ft	0.17 ft	
10 gpm	0.70 ft	0.21 ft	
11 gpm	0.84 ft	0.25 ft	
12 gpm	1.01 ft	0.30 ft	
13 gpm	1.17 ft	0.35 ft	
14 gpm	1.33 ft	0.39 ft	
15 gpm	1.45 ft	0.44 ft	0.07 ft
16 gpm	1.65 ft	0.50 ft	0.08 ft
17 gpm	1.86 ft	0.56 ft	0.09 ft
18 gpm	2.07 ft	0.62 ft	0.10 ft
19 gpm	2.28 ft	0.68 ft	0.11 ft
20 gpm	2.46 ft	0.74 ft	0.12 ft
25 gpm	3.75 ft	1.10 ft	0.16 ft
30 gpm	5.22 ft	1.54 ft	0.23 ft
35 gpm		2.05 ft	0.30 ft
40 gpm		2.62 ft	0.39 ft
45 gpm		3.27 ft	0.48 ft
50 gpm		3.98 ft	0.58 ft

TABLE 1407.8
Holding capacity of pipes

Diameter	Pipe volume	
	gallons/foot	length/gallon
1 1/4 in	0.0776 gal	12' 10 5/8"
1 1/2 in	0.1057 gal	9' 5 1/2"
2 in	0.1632 gal	6' 1 1/2"
2 1/2 in	0.2549 gal	3' 11 3/4"
3 in	0.3672 gal	2' 8 3/4"
4 in	0.6528 gal	1' 6"
5 in	1.0199 gal	1' 0"
6 in	1.469 gal	8"
7 in	1.999 gal	6"
8 in	2.611 gal	4 1/2"

1 gallon of water = 8.35 pounds
1 cubic foot of water = 7.48 gallons

TABLE 14-1
PLUMBING MATERIAL STANDARDS
FOR DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

PRESSURE SEWER (OR PRESSURE LINE FROM PUMP CHAMBER TO DISPOSAL AREA)
EFFLUENT PIPE (LINE FROM TREATMENT TANK TO DISPOSAL FIELD FOOTPRINT)
DISTRIBUTION PIPE (PIPING WITHIN THE DISPOSAL FIELD FOOTPRINT) (SEE B)
BUILDING SEWER (WATER SERVICE IN SAME TRENCH) (SEE C)
BUILDING SEWER (SEPARATE FROM WATER SERVICE)

ASTM NUMBER FOR PLASTIC PIPE MUST BE LATEST EDITION AS LISTED IN ANNUAL BOOK OF ASTM STANDARDS, PART 34

NOTES:

(A) PLASTIC PIPE MUST BE SLEEVED WHEN PASSING THROUGH MASONRY

(B) PERFORATED PIPE MUST BE USED WITHIN THE ACTUAL DISPOSAL FIELD

(C) WATER AND SEWER PIPE LESS THAN 10 FEET (CENTER TO CENTER) OR WATER AND SEWER PIPE IN THE SAME TRENCH REQUIRES THE WATER PIPE TO BE ON A SHELF AT LEAST 18 INCHES ABOVE AND 24 INCHES (CENTER TO CENTER) APART FROM EACH OTHER (HORIZONTAL MEASURE)

X PERMISSIBLE ☐

x	x	x	x	x	ABS (ASTM D1527) Sch. 40, 80
x		x			ABS (ASTM D2282) SDR 13.5, 17, 21, 26
	x	x	x	x	ABS (ASTM D2661) DWV Sch. 40
	x	x		x	ABS (ASTM D2751, F810) Sewer Grade
		x			Bituminized Fiber (ASTM D1861)
			x	x	Cast Iron
				x	Concrete (ASTM C75, C200)
x		x		x	PB (ASTM D2662) Pipe SDR 7, 9, 11.5, 15
x	x	x			PE (ASTM D1248) Straight Wall
x		x		x	PE (ASTM D2239) Pipe SDR 5.3, 7.9, 11.5, 15, 19
x		x		x	PE (ASTM D2737) Tubing SDR 7.3, 9, 11
	x	x			PE (ASTM 3350) Smooth Wall Pipe, SDR 38, 35
x	x	x	x	x	PVC (ASTM D1785) Sch. 40, 80, 120
x		x		x	PVC (ASTM D2241) SDR 13.5, 17, 21, 26, 32.5, 41, 64
	x	x	x	x	PVC (ASTM D2665) DWV Sch. 40
		x			PVC (ASTM D2729; F810) Thin Walled Perforated, Disposal Field Only
	x	x	x	x	PVC (ASTM D3034) SDR 23.5, 26, 35, 41
					Styrene Rubber (ASTM D2852, 2" thru 6")

CHAPTER 15

WETLANDS

SECTION 1500.0 GENERAL

1500.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the installation of disposal systems in wetlands and in areas adjacent to wetlands and other natural resource protected areas. Work in these areas must comply with any other pertinent regulations such as the Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Environmental Protection, or local ordinances (see Section 1500.4).

1500.2 Intent: The filling of or the alteration of wetlands for any purpose, including activities associated with the installation of systems, is prohibited unless such filling or alteration is specifically approved by all relevant agencies. This includes adjacent activities which may cause material to wash into the wetland.

1500.3 Wetland jurisdiction: The Army Corps of Engineers makes jurisdictional determinations and issues wetland permits for filling, dredging, and other construction in certain wetlands under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. The Army Corps of Engineers provides the same function under Section 404 of the Clean Waters Act for all other wetlands, with program oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). With the combination of these two acts, all wetlands, regardless of size, are regulated by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulates activities in, or adjacent to, coastal or freshwater wetlands, as defined in Chapter 2 under the Natural Resources Protection Act, (NRPA) Title 38 M.R.S.A. §480-A et seq.

1500.4 Permit by Rule: The installation or repair of a system does not require a Natural Resources Protection Act permit from the Department of Environmental Protection provided all Sections of this code are met. The requirements contained in Section 1504.0 of this code are designed to meet the same requirements contained in DEP's Permit by Rule program for soil disturbance adjacent to or within a protected natural resource associated with a wetland and/or other DEP-regulated NRPA natural resources.

SECTION 1501.0 WETLAND DELINEATION

1501.1 Individuals who may delineate wetlands: Although certification is presently not required to perform wetland boundary delineation, people who do so should have sufficient scientific expertise to perform such delineation.

1501.2 Wetlands suspected to be present: When site evaluators suspect wetlands may affect the proposed location of a system they have designed, they should advise their clients that:

(1) Wetland alteration permit may be necessary: Wetlands may be involved and that a wetlands alteration permit may be necessary;

(2) System design is preliminary: The system design and location is preliminary as it is dependent on applicable wetland rules and setbacks; and

(3) Wetland delineation is needed: The client shall hire an expert to identify and delineate the wetland boundary (if the site evaluator does not have sufficient scientific expertise to do so.)

1501.3 Wetlands present: If a wetland is present, the applicant should contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the possible need for State and Federal Wetland Alteration Permits.

SECTION 1502.0 DISPOSAL SYSTEMS INSTALLED WITHIN WETLAND

1502.1 First time systems: First time systems may not be installed within a wetland. First time systems installed outside the wetland boundary, but which require fill material extensions that are adjacent to or cross into coastal or special freshwater wetlands, may be allowed provided that permits are obtained by the property owner from applicable regulatory agencies and no reasonable alternative exists.

1502.2 Replacement systems: Replacement systems may be installed partially or wholly within wetlands, provided that: no reasonable alternative exists; the amount of fill material placed in the wetland is minimized to the fullest extent possible.

SECTION 1503.0 SOIL DISTURBANCE WITHIN 100 FEET OF WATER BODIES AND WETLANDS

1503.1 Minimum standards: All ground disturbance occurring within 100 feet of a coastal wetland, freshwater wetland, great pond, or water course must comply with the minimum standards set forth in Section 1504.0.

1503.2 If unable to meet minimum standards: Activities that cannot meet all the minimum standards set forth in this chapter are subject to permit requirements under the Natural Resources Protection Act administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

SECTION 1504.0 WORK ADJACENT TO SPECIAL WETLANDS AND WATER BODIES

1504.1 Runoff prevention: In order to prevent runoff which may carry sediment from the disturbance activity from directly entering water bodies, the standards in this section apply to all ground disturbance occurring within 100 feet of a coastal wetland, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds or major waterbodies/courses.

1504.2 Permits required: Soil disturbance activities within 100 feet of a coastal wetland, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds, or water courses that cannot meet all of the following standards are subject to permit requirements under the Natural Resource Protection Act administered by the Maine Department of Environmental

WETLANDS

Protection. Compliance with the following sections is considered a permit by rule:

(1) Sites with slopes of less than 20%: Where sustained slopes are less than 20%, a 25-foot setback must be maintained between the normal high water line or upland edge of a coastal wetland, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds or major waterbodies/courses (whichever is more restrictive) and any soil disturbance activity; and

(2) Sites with slopes exceeding 20%: Where sustained slopes exceed 20%, a 100-foot setback must be maintained between the normal high water line or upland edge of the coastal wetland, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds, or major waterbodies/courses (whichever is more restrictive) and any soil disturbance activity; and

(3) Runoff diverted: Upland surface water runoff must be diverted around the soil disturbance activity.

(4) Replacement systems: The setback requirements for removal, replacement or maintenance of wastewater disposal systems, authorized by this code, can be waived when no practical alternative exists and the LPI agrees.

(5) Buffers with vegetation: Existing vegetation within the 25 foot setback zone must remain undisturbed except when removal is required for the maintenance, repair or installation of a replacement system.

(6) Wetland disturbance: Wetland vegetation must not be destroyed or permanently removed, if at all possible. If wetland vegetation is disturbed during the project, it must be reestablished immediately upon completion of the work and must be maintained. This standard does not apply to fill or disposal areas required for replacement of wastewater disposal systems.

(7) Erosion control barriers: Prior to the start of a soil disturbance activity, erosion control measures such as staked hay bales, or silt fence must be properly installed and adequately maintained for the duration of the project, to prevent the wash of materials into the resource.

(8) Time limit: All soil disturbance activities must start as soon as practical.

(9) Site stabilization: Disturbed soil must be stabilized as soon as practical, upon activity completion.

(10) Additional: In addition to placement of riprap, sod, erosion control blankets or mulch, additional steps must be taken where necessary, in order to prevent sedimentation of the water. Evidence of sedimentation includes visible gully erosion, discoloration of water by suspended particles and slumping of banks. Silt fences, staked hay bales and other sedimentation control measures, where planned for, must be in place prior to

commencement of work, but must also be installed whenever necessary due to sedimentation.

(11) Duration of temporary erosion control: Mulch or other temporary erosion control measures must be maintained until the site is permanently stabilized with vegetation or other permanent control measures.

Note: Erosion and sedimentation control measures should comply with U.S.D.A., Natural Resource Conservation Service and Soil and Water Conservation District specifications.

CHAPTER 16

This Chapter reserved for future use.

CHAPTER 17

EXPANSION OF EXISTING DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

SECTION 1700.0 GENERAL

1700.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the alteration, repair or expansion of existing systems.

SECTION 1701.0 ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS OF EXISTING DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

1701.1 General: Alterations or repairs made to existing disposal systems, excluding those required for an expansion or change in use may be approved by the local plumbing inspector provided that all requirements of Section 104.0 Repairs and Maintenance are met.

1701.2 Existing overboard discharge: Any structure(s) licensed to discharge treated or untreated wastewater or any property to which a valid license has been issued to discharge wastewater to the waters of the state may install a disposal system using replacement system criteria.

SECTION 1702.0 EXPANSION OR CHANGE IN USE OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

1702.1 General: Any expansion or change in use of a structure which results in an increase in design flow and which requires larger disposal system components than are present in the existing disposal system must first obtain a permit in accordance with this section and any municipal ordinances governing subsurface wastewater disposal systems. Expansions of a structure, such as a porch, living room or sun room, which do not increase the design flow are exempt from the requirements of this section.

1702.2 Expansion: The initial expansion of a single family home after May 1, 1995 by the addition of one or more bedrooms, or the introduction of mechanically pressurized water to a structure formerly served by hand pumped or hand carried water. For other structures, an expansion is the initial expansion since May 1, 1995, which results in an increase in design flow of 10 percent or more.

SECTION 1703.0 EXPANSIONS OUTSIDE OF THE SHORELAND ZONE OF MAJOR WATERBODIES/COURSES

1703.1 Expansion design criteria outside the shoreland zone: Expanded disposal systems must meet design criteria as set forth in Tables 600.3 and 700.3.

1703.2 Expanded systems located outside of the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses not upgraded at the time of expansion: If an expanded system is located outside of the shoreland zone of a major waterbody/course, the owner may elect to not install the expanded disposal system at the time of expansion, provided the existing disposal system is functioning properly, by

utilizing the following procedure. This procedure must be met prior to the expansion:

(1) Application (HHE-200): The applicant shall provide a completed *application* to the local plumbing inspector demonstrating that if the existing disposal system malfunctions in the future, it can be replaced or enlarged in accordance with this code and any municipal ordinances that apply to systems. The application must show the location of the existing system, the replacement or enlarged system, lot lines and all wells within applicable setback distances.

(2) Registry of deeds: A *copy* of the documentation required in 1703.3.1 must be recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds. The Department shall prescribe the form of the notice to be recorded in the County Registry of Deeds.

(3) Notify abutters: The person seeking to expand a structure shall send a copy of the notice of documentation, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to all owners of abutting lots.

(4) Protection of future installation: After the documentation required in 1703.3.1 has been recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds and all abutters have been notified, no owner of abutting property may install a well in a location that would prevent the installation of the expanded disposal system. The owner of the lot on which the expanded disposal system is to be installed may not erect any structure on the proposed site of the expanded disposal system or conduct any activity that would prevent the use of the designated site for the expanded disposal system.

SECTION 1704.0 EXPANSIONS INSIDE OF THE SHORELAND ZONE OF MAJOR WATERBODIES/COURSES

1704.1 Expanded systems located within the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses: Expanded systems located within the shoreland zone of major waterbodies/courses must be installed prior to the expansion.

1704.2 Expansion design criteria inside the shoreland zone: Expanded disposal systems of one bedroom or less than 25 percent of the total design flow must meet design criteria as set forth in Tables 600.4 and 700.4. Expanded disposal systems of two bedrooms or more, or equal to or greater than 25 percent of the total design flow must meet design criteria as set forth in Tables 600.2 and 700.2.

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CHAPTER 18

EXPERIMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT REGISTRATION REQUESTS

SECTION 1800.0 GENERAL

1800.1 Scope: This Chapter governs applications for new or experimental technology and requests for product registration.

1800.2 Intent: This Chapter provides a procedure to review the installation, operation, and long term requests for monitoring of experimental technologies and requests for new product registration.

1800.3 Application: Applications for new or experimental technology and requests for product registration must be accompanied by an application form as determined by the Division.

SECTION 1801.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW OR EXPERIMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

1801.1 General: Any permit issued to allow an experimental technology system must require, as a condition of issuance, the establishment of a monitoring program by which system performance can be demonstrated. At a minimum, all experimental technology systems must be capable of operating at the same degree of efficacy and reliability as any authorized alternative appropriate for the site. Any variance issued will require that the system be altered if such efficacy and reliability are not obtained, in order to bring performance up to standard, or, if such alteration is not feasible, that the system must be abandoned.

1801.2 Applicants shall demonstrate: Requests for the installation of experimental technology systems may be granted by the Department if it is demonstrated that the conditions set forth in this Section can be met.

1801.3 Backup design: An authorized design can be installed on the property for which an experimental technology system is proposed. The backup system design must be recorded with the county registry of deeds;

1801.4 Meets the intent of this code: The proposal is designed to protect public health, prevent the creation of any nuisance, and prevent environmental pollution to the same extent as the authorized system approved for the property;

1801.5 Sound engineering principles: The proposed design is shown to be based on sound engineering principles and can be expected to provide the same level of protection to public health and the environment as offered by the authorized system that could be installed on the property; and

1801.6 System performance: If the system does not perform so that it meets the purposes of this code, the applicant (or current owner) will expeditiously abandon the experimental system and install the backup system meeting all the requirements of this code.

1801.7 Approval: There are three (3) levels of approval for new or experimental technology: Pilot, Provisional, and General Use. All Pilot and Provisional new or experimental technology system designs must be approved by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Environmental Health (Division) prior to installation.

(1) Pilot approval: Pilot approval allows an applicant to demonstrate the general ability of a proposed new or experimental technology to treat wastewater as defined in the Rules. No less than 10 installations of a specific new or experimental technology must be granted Pilot system approval by the Division. Pilot approvals must be limited to sites which do not otherwise require any variance or waiver to the Rules. On no less than a bi-weekly basis for a period of not less than six months, and once per month for at least an additional six months, the applicant shall test the influent and effluent of each installed new or experimental technology system for the following parameters: five day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Nitrate Nitrogen (N03), Nitrite Nitrogen (NO₂), Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), Ammonia Nitrogen (NH₄), and coliform bacteria. The results of these tests must be submitted to the Division on no less than a quarterly basis. Historic data from other jurisdictions may be submitted, if available. If such data are satisfactory, the applicant may bypass Pilot approval and proceed to Provisional status.

(2) Provisional approval: Provisional approval allows an applicant to demonstrate ability of a proposed new or experimental technology to operate under a broader range of site conditions and to provide a larger number of data sources for such demonstration. No less than 25 installations of a specific new or experimental technology must be granted Provisional system approval by the Division, of which 10 may be Pilot systems previously approved by the Division. Provisional approvals must not be granted until the Pilot systems have been in operation for at least one year. Provisional approval installations may include sites which require a variance or waiver to the Rules, with the provision that such variances or waivers are also subject to the standard variance requirements of the Rules, i.e., a passing point score for soils related variances, etc. On no less than a monthly basis for a period of not less than one year, the applicant shall test the influent and effluent of each installed new or experimental technology system for the following parameters: five day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Nitrate Nitrogen (N03), and coliform bacteria. The results of these tests shall must be submitted to the Division on no less than a semi-annual basis. Existing data from

EXPERIMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT APPROVAL REQUESTS

other jurisdictions may be submitted, if available. If such data are satisfactory, the applicant may bypass Provisional approval and proceed to General Use status.

(3) General Use approval: To receive General Use approval for a new or experimental technology, the applicant shall demonstrate that the 50 systems installed under Provisional approval have operated as designed and intended. Upon such demonstration, the provisionally approved new or experimental technology under consideration must be granted written General Use status approval for use in Maine, and shall be included in the next revision of the Rules.

(4) Failure to Perform: In the event that a new or experimental technology fails to perform as claimed by the applicant, use of the new or experimental technology in Maine, including all installations pursuant to Section 1801.7 of this code, must cease. Use of the new or experimental technology must not resume until the applicant and the Division have reached a mutually acceptable agreement for resolving the failure to perform as claimed.

SECTION 1802.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCT REGISTRATION

1802.1 General: Any manufacturer or distributor submitting new products (including, but not limited to, remedial products, processes or devices, disposal system components, pre-filters or proprietary disposal devices) to the Department for code approval and registration shall demonstrate that the conditions set forth in this Section are met.

1802.2 Meets the intent of this code: The product is designed to protect public health, prevent the creation of any nuisance, and prevent environmental pollution to the same extent as comparable products presently authorized by the Department for use in this code;

1802.3 Sound engineering principles: The product is based on sound engineering principles and can be expected to provide the same level of protection to public health and the environment as offered by the authorized products presently authorized by the Department for use in this code. Sound engineering principles may be demonstrated by submitting a letter to the Department from a) a certifying organization, such as the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA), or other suitable organization stating their approval of the product, or b) the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) indicating the requested product (used as indicated in the request) meets the ASTM standard as specifically listed in the appropriate section of any nationally recognized code, such as BOCA or equal.

1802.4 Registration: There are three (3) levels of approval for product registration: Pilot, Provisional, and General Use. All Pilot and Provisional product registration installations must be approved by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine

Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Environmental Health (Division) prior to installation.

(1) Pilot approval: Pilot approval allows an applicant to demonstrate the general ability of a proposed product to treat wastewater as defined in the Rules, or perform other functions as claimed by the applicant. No less than 10 installations of a specific product registration must be granted Pilot approval by the Division. Pilot approvals must be limited to sites which do not otherwise require any variance or waiver to the Rules, if wastewater treatment is claimed by the applicant. If wastewater treatment is claimed by the applicant, on no less than a bi-weekly basis for a period of not less than six months, and once per month for at least an additional six months, the applicant shall test the influent and effluent of each installed product registration for the following parameters: five day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Nitrate Nitrogen (NO₃), Nitrite Nitrogen (NO₂), Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), Ammonia Nitrogen (NH₄), and coliform bacteria. The results of these tests must be submitted to the Division on no less than a quarterly basis. Historic data from other jurisdictions may be submitted, if available. If such data are satisfactory, the applicant may bypass Pilot approval and proceed to Provisional status.

(2) Provisional approval: Provisional approval allows an applicant to demonstrate ability of a proposed product to operate under a broader range of site conditions and to provide a larger number of data sources for such demonstration. No less than 25 installations of a specific new or experimental technology specific product registration must be granted Provisional system approval by the Division, of which 10 may be Pilot systems previously approved by the Division. Provisional product registrations must not be granted until the Pilot installations have been in operation for at least one year, or if historic data is accepted by the Division. Provisional product registration installations may include sites which require a variance or waiver to the Rules, with the provision that such variances or waivers are also subject to the standard variance requirements of the Rules, i.e., a passing point score for soils related variances, etc. If wastewater treatment is claimed by the applicant, on no less than a monthly basis for a period of not less than one year, the applicant shall test the influent and effluent of each installed provisionally approved product for the following parameters: five day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Nitrate Nitrogen (NO₃), and coliform bacteria. The results of these tests must be submitted to the Division on no less than a semi-annual basis. Existing data from other jurisdictions may be submitted, if available. If such data are satisfactory, the applicant may bypass Provisional approval and proceed to General Use status.

(3) General Use approval: To receive General Use approval for a product registration, the applicant shall

demonstrate that the 50 installations allowed under Provisional approval have operated as designed and intended. Upon such demonstration, the provisionally approved product under consideration must be granted written General Use status approval for use in Maine, and must be included in the next revision of the Rules.

(4) Advanced Wastewater Treatment Units and Effluent Filters: Advanced treatment units for treatment of wastewater as defined in this code, and septic tank effluent filters which have been certified by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF), Canadian Standards Authority (CSA), or other third party testing entity accepted by the Department must be allowed for Provisional General Use in Maine, upon submission of such certification to the Department.

(5) Other Criteria: The Department shall consider other relevant supporting data for product registrations on a case-by-case basis.

(6) Failure to Perform: In the event that a product fails to perform as claimed by the applicant, use of the product in Maine, including all installations pursuant to Section 1802.4 of this code, must cease. Use of the product must not resume until the applicant and the Division have reached a mutually acceptable agreement for resolving the failure to perform as claimed.

CHAPTER 19

VARIANCES

SECTION 1900.0 GENERAL

1900.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the requests for: 1) all variances for replacement systems, and 2) variances for first-time systems.

1900.2 Procedure: The procedure for processing a variance request depends upon whether it is for a first time or replacement system variance request and whether or not it is within the limit of authority of the LPI for final disposition.

SECTION 1901.0 FIRST TIME SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUESTS - DEPARTMENT

1901.1 Requests for variance: Request for first time system variances must include a completed application submitted to the Department by the applicant. The completed application must be on a form prescribed by the Department, signed by the LPI and municipal officer(s) and accompanied by the appropriate application fee.

1901.2 Contents of applications: An application for a first time system variance must include the following:

(1) Completed application for a disposal system permit: A completed application for a permit to install a system or part of a system. It must include complete plans and specifications for the proposed system and other pertinent information as required on the HHE-200 and HHE-215 forms;

(2) Requirements that cannot be met: The application must indicate the section(s) and/or provision(s) of the rules for which a variance is being requested;

(3) Basis for variance request: The reason(s) why the condition(s) set forth in the Rules cannot be met as well as justification for the variance request. Justification must include a discussion of why the variance will not have an impact upon wastewater treatment including how additional measures may be used to offset reductions to conditions required by the rules;

(4) No conflict with local ordinances: For variances that fall under this Chapter the applicant shall provide statement(s) that the completed application has been reviewed and signed by the LPI and municipal officer(s) on the HHE-215 form indicating that the application is complete and does not conflict with local ordinances.

(5) Additional engineering or measures: If pretreatment or additional measures are being proposed the application must show how the proposed system and measures meet applicable sections of the rules, including the pretreatment requirements found in Chapter 6.

(6) Other information: The Department may request additional information from the applicant for a first

time system variance request. If the applicant fails to provide additional information requested by the Department within 60 days of the request, the variance request will automatically be denied.

SECTION 1902.0 FIRST TIME SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST - MUNICIPALITY

1902.1 Municipal Review: This section authorizes the municipality to review and make a final disposition of a request for a First Time System Variance through the Local Plumbing Inspector. The intent of this section is that all decisions regarding these First Time System Variances be made at the local level, with no requirement for Department review. However, if a municipality so chooses, it may request, in writing, that the Department make final decisions regarding these First Time System Variances. When so notified, the Department will review and make final disposition upon all First Time System Variance requests within a municipality's jurisdiction.

1902.2 Evaluation: The plumbing inspector or Department will evaluate the merits of First Time System Variance requests based on the criteria set forth in this section.

1902.3 Soil conditions: For a site that does not comply with the minimum soil conditions in Table 600.2, the plumbing inspector or Department will use the criteria contained in Tables 1900.1 through 1900.11 to evaluate the potential for a variance, except that sites with less than 9 inches over hydraulically restrictive horizon or seasonal water table will not be considered.

1902.4 Setbacks: For a site that does not comply with the minimum first time system setback distances in Chapter 7, variances must be processed in accordance with Section 1901.0 (Department review required).

1903.0 REVIEW FEE

1903.1 Fee: A review fee, as prescribed in Table 110.2 or 110.3 must be submitted to the municipality to defray the cost of review and processing a First Time System Variance request.

1904.0 CRITERIA USED BY THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR OR DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL

1904.1 General: An application, a First Time System Variance Form (HHE-215) and Review Fee must be submitted to the LPI or Department demonstrating the criteria set forth in this section.

1904.2 Municipal ordinances: The Municipal Officers or Land Use Regulation Commission indicate by their signature that the application is in compliance with their regulations or ordinances relating to disposal systems.

1904.3 No practical alternative: There is no practical alternative for wastewater disposal, such as access to public sewer;

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1904.4 Shoreland zoning: No conflict with Shoreland Zoning;

1904.5 Relative point value: The relative suitability of a proposed first time disposal system is determined by summing the points, from Tables 1900.1 through 1900.11, for the various soil, site and engineering features associated with the proposed installation. The phrase “not permitted” means that a property meeting that designation in any Table in this chapter is excluded from consideration for a First Time system Variance.

(1) Minimum point value for sites within the shoreland zoned areas of major waterbodies/courses: Any proposed first time disposal system located within the Mandatory Zoning Area must have a relative value of at least 65 points to be considered acceptable, unless a local ordinance requires a higher minimum point value to be acceptable.

1904.6 Owner's understanding: The owners' signatures affixed on the application for variance means that it is understood that the proposed system is not in total compliance with the rules. The owners' release all concerned, provided that they have performed their duties in a reasonable and proper manner considering the owners' request for a variance to the rules.

(1) Awareness of costs: The property owner is aware of the variance, its limitations and costs;

(2) Additional engineering: Additional engineering has been proposed to overcome limitations of the existing soils, such as increased separation distance for limiting factor, increased design flow, curtain drain, etc.

1904.7 Deed covenant: A deed covenant (HHE-304) may be required for any property which obtains additional points for lot size prior to final approval of a First Time System Variance. The covenant must stipulate that the subject property cannot be subdivided without prior approval from the plumbing inspector or the Department.

1904.8 Map: An 8-1/2 by 11 inch sized map from the Maine Atlas or a U.S.G.S. topographic survey map must accompany each variance request and must indicate sufficient identification to locate the property.

1904.9 Prior approved sites: A variance must not be approved for a lot that had a disposal site approved during Municipal or Department of Environmental Protection subdivision review unless the applicant can prove that the site requiring a variance will provide equal or better treatment of the wastewater than the previously approved site.

1905.0 INSPECTIONS

1905.1 Plumbing inspector: The local plumbing inspector (LPI) shall be responsible for the final inspection and approval of the system.

The Department or LPI shall have authority to enter onto a property at any reasonable time for the purpose of performing an inspection to determine compliance with

the requirements for a “First Time System Variance” request, or to verify the accuracy of the information provided by the request.

1905.2 Permission: By signing the “First Time System Variance” form, the owner acknowledges permission for the plumbing inspector or Department to enter onto the premises to perform such duties necessary to evaluate the variance request.

TABLES 1900.1 –1900.11 SOIL, SITE AND ENGINEERING FACTORS USED IN ASSESSING POTENTIAL FOR A FIRST TIME SYSTEM VARIANCE

TABLE 1900.1

SOILS

Soil Profile from Table 600.1	Points
Profiles 2, 3, & 7	15
Profiles 1, 8, & 9	10
Profile 4	7
Profiles 5, 6, & 11	5
Profile 10	Not permitted
Al & All bedrock classes	Not permitted

TABLE 1900.2

SEASONAL GROUNDWATER OR RESTRICTIVE LAYER

Depth to seasonal groundwater or restrictive layer	Points
14 inches *	20
13 inches *	15
12 inches *	9
11 inches *	6
10 inches *	3
9 inches *	0
Less than 9 inches	Not Permitted

* For sites within the shoreland zoned area of major waterbodies/courses

TABLE 1900.3

TERRAIN

Position in the Landscape	Points
Knoll Upland (no watershed)	5
Side slope	3
Lowland	minus 5
Depression	Not permitted

TABLE 1900.4

SIZE OF PROPERTY AND DISPOSAL AREA SETBACK FROM DOWNGRAIENT PROPERTY LINE

Total acreage	Points Setback <50'	Points Setback 50' - 99'	Points Setback 100' - 199'	Points Setback >200'
More than 10 acres	5	10	15	20
6 - 10 acres	4	7	11	15
5 - 6 acres	3	5	8	10
4 - 5 acres	2	4	6	8
3 - 4 acres	1	3	4	4
2 - 3 acres	1	2	3	3
1 - 2 acres	0	1	2	NA
½ - 1 acre	minus 10	NA	NA	N/A
Less than 20,000 ft ²	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted

**TABLE 1900.5
MAJOR WATER BODY SETBACK**

Setback distance from disposal area to major water bodies	Points
Greater than 250 feet	5
Between 150 - 250 feet	3
Between 100 - 149 feet	0
Less than 100 feet	Not permitted

**TABLE 1900.6
WATER SUPPLY & ZONING**

Type	Points
public water system	5
private drilled well	3
other private supply	0
zoned for resource protection	Not permitted

**TABLE 1900.7
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT**

Type	Points
Commercial less than 100 gpd	5
Commercial 100 - 300 gpd	3
Single-family residential	0
Commercial 301 - 750 gpd	minus 5
Commercial greater than 750 gpd	minus 10

**TABLE 1900.8
DISPOSAL AREA ADJUSTMENT**

Increase in minimum disposal area as determined from Chapter 5	Points
Minimum disposal area plus 66%	10
Minimum disposal area plus 33%	5
Minimum disposal area	0

**TABLE 1900.9
VERTICAL SEPARATION DISTANCE ADJUSTMENT**

Increase in minimum vertical separation distances between bottom of the disposal field and limiting soil horizon as determined from Tables 600.2 and 600.3	Points
* Minimum separation distance plus 12"	10
* Minimum separation distance plus 6"	5
Minimum separation distance	0

* Minimum separation distance based upon design class 3 and 4 as indicated in Table 600.2 (First time systems)

**TABLE 1900.10
ADDITIONAL TREATMENT**

Type of treatment	Points
Curtain drains for Profiles 1, 3, 7 & 8	5
Liner (See Subsection 1601.0) for Profiles 5, 6 & 11 (if 11 is sandy)	3
Septic tank outlet filter	3

**TABLE 1900.11
USE OF ADVANCED TREATMENT DEVICES OR SYSTEMS**

Strength of effluent (BOD ⁵ plus TSS)	Points
150 to 101 mg/l	5
100 to 51 mg/l	10
50 to 11 mg/l	15
10 mg/l or less	20

SECTION 1906.0 REPLACEMENT SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST

1906.1 Conditions applicable to all replacement system variance requests: The following conditions apply to all replacement system variance requests regardless of whether final disposition is with the LPI or the Department.

(1) Completed application for a disposal system permit: A completed application for a permit to install a system or part of a system must be submitted to the LPI. It must include complete plans and specifications for the proposed system and other pertinent information as required on the HHE-200 or HHE-233 (holding tank) forms.

(2) Requirement which cannot be met: The application must indicate the section(s) and/or provision(s) of the rules for which a variance is being requested.

(3) Basis for a variance request: The reasons why the condition(s) set forth cannot be met.

(4) Application Review Fee: The replacement system application review fee, as indicated in Table 110.2 and Table 110.3 must be submitted to the LPI.

(5) Minimum reduction necessary: The variance request is for the minimum reduction necessary to any requirement of the rules to accomplish the replacement system installation.

(6) No conflict with local ordinances: The request for a replacement system variance does not conflict with any local ordinance(s) or other rule(s) or statute(s).

(7) Meets definitions of replacement system: The replacement system variance request is to replace an existing system that was either in existence and functioning prior to July 1, 1974; or installed and permitted after July 1, 1974; or to replace an overboard discharge system.

(8) Additional engineering or measures: If pretreatment or other additional measures are being proposed, the application must show how the proposed system and measures meet applicable sections of the rules, including Chapter 6.

1906.2 Replacement system variance requests which are within the limit of the LPI's authority: Replacement System Variance Requests may be decided upon by the LPI, without Department review, if the following conditions are met:

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(1) **Standard conditions:** All of the conditions of subsection 1906.1 are met;

(2) **Minimum soil conditions:** Reductions in minimum soil conditions are no greater than allowed in Table 600.3;

(3) **Fill extension slope:** The fill extension slope is no greater than 3:1 or 33%;

(4) **Wastewater strength:** The BOD5 plus suspended solids content of the wastewater is no greater than that of normal domestic effluent.

1906.3 Replacement system variance requests which are beyond the limit of the LPI's authority: Replacement System Variance Requests which are beyond the LPI's limit of authority must be submitted to the Department for review and disposition. They must meet the following conditions:

(1) **Standard conditions:** All of the conditions of subsection 1906.1 are met;

(2) **LPI signature:** The completed application, including HHE-204 or HHE-233 form, has been reviewed and signed by the LPI;

(3) **Flexibility:** The Department may be as flexible as is necessary to correct an existing, public health hazard.

SECTION 1907.0 DISPOSITION OF A VARIANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT

1907.1 General: The Department may approve a variance, deny it, or approve it with conditions. The disposition of the variance request will be in writing and state the specifications and conditions of any approval or the reasons for denial. The conditions may include deed covenants, inspections and mandatory installation of a holding tank if the system fails in the future.

SECTION 1908.0 TIME LIMIT

1908.1 General: Any disposal system variance issued after the effective date of this code will become invalid if the system has not been permitted in compliance with any conditions established with the variance within two years after issuance of the disposal system variance except that any malfunction must be replaced at the earliest opportunity.

SECTION 1909.0 OWNER/APPLICANT'S UNDERSTANDING

1909.1 Applicant responsibilities: Approval of a variance under this Chapter does not relieve the applicant of the responsibilities of complying with all other applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, or ordinances.

1909.2 Owner's understanding: The owners' signature affixed on the application for variance means that it is understood that the proposed system is not in total compliance with the rules. The owner releases all concerned, provided that they have performed their duties in a reasonable and proper manner, considering the owners' request for a variance to the rules.

CHAPTER 20

HOLDING TANKS

SECTION 2000.0 GENERAL

2000.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the approval and installation of holding tanks.

2000.2 Background: Holding tanks are designed to receive and hold the domestic wastewater leaving a structure. This wastewater, in turn, is pumped out and transported to a municipal treatment plant or to an approved land spreading site. The average person may generate 45 to 75 gallons of wastewater per day. Thus, a family of three can expect to fill a 1,500 gallon holding tank every 6 to 10 days. Holding tank pumping is costly and the holding tanks require continuous supervision on the part of the municipality to assure proper maintenance and pumping.

2000.3 General: The following applies to all holding tanks:

(1) **Annual pumping required:** Every holding tank must be pumped at least once a year, providing the system has been used.

(2) **Seasonal conversion not permitted:** Holding tanks can not be used to satisfy the requirements for a Seasonal Conversion Permit under Title 30-A MRSA §4215 subsection 2 or a first time system located within the shoreland zoned area of major water courses, except as allowed by local ordinance.

(3) **Water use monitoring:** The plumbing inspector may require the installation of a water meter to monitor the flow to the holding tank.

(4) **Reporting:** The owner or agent for the owner of a holding tank shall retain for a period of three years the copies of the pumping records, water use records (if required) and the current agreement between the owner and tank pumper. A copy of these records must be made available to the plumbing inspector upon his/her request.

(5) **Holding tank specifications:** Newly installed holding tanks must be constructed of the same materials and to the same structural specifications as septic tanks, as specified in Chapter 9. They must be either: a) of monolithic construction (effective May 1, 1999) below the top of the inlet to the holding tank, or b) sealed at the joint with a non-water soluble compound and all holding tanks must have, at a minimum, an 18 inch diameter cleanout cover and a 13 by 17 inch inspection cover over the inlet.

(6) **Installation:** Holding tank must be installed in accordance with Section 907.0.

(7) **Setbacks:** Must meet the setback requirements for treatment tanks (Tables 700.2, 700.3, 700.4).

(8) **Alarm provisions:** The holding tank must have visual and audible alarm devices to assure the tank is always pumped before it is full.

(9) **Number and size of holding tanks:** The installation must have a minimum capacity of at least seven times the daily flow but not less than 1,000 gallons. Multiple tanks must be installed in series.

(10) **Water conservation:** The plumbing in the structure optimizes water conservation and all water closets meet or exceed ASME standard A112.19.2 (1.6 gallons per flush maximum).

(11) **Discontinuance of Holding Tank:** Any structure which utilizes a holding tank permitted after July 1, 1974 is required to meet first time criteria for alternate means of subsurface wastewater disposal.

SECTION 2001.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2001.1 Plumbing inspector approval: A holding tank application requires plumbing inspector approval.

2001.2 Application for a holding tank: A completed application for a holding tank (HHE-233) prepared by a Site Evaluator must contain the following:

(1) **Owner/Municipality agreement:** A completed holding tank agreement (HHE-233) with the necessary owner/municipality statement is required.

SECTION 2002.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF ALL PERMANENT HOLDING TANKS

2002.1 LPI Approval: The plumbing inspector may approve the permanent use of a holding tank under the following conditions:

(1) **Required by other regulation:** A local ordinance of Private and Special Law requires that a holding tank be used for wastewater, or

(2) **No practical alternative:** Due to site conditions, lot configuration, or other constraints, the installation of a system, in full compliance with this code, is not achievable without the employment of extraordinary measures or extraordinary cost; and

(3) **Public sewers not available:** Public sewers and/or multi-user systems are, by practical means, not immediately available; and

(4) **Water conservation:** The plumbing in the structure will be modified for maximum water conservation, and all water closets must meet or exceed ASME A112.19.2 for 1.6 gallons per flush.

(5) **Deed Covenant:** A deed covenant (HHE-300) is required for any residential structure served by a holding tank. As a minimum, the covenant must include a statement that a holding tank is serving the structure for the disposal of human sewage and wastewater. The aforementioned statement must be a separate stand alone section or paragraph.

SECTION 2003.0 REPLACEMENT HOLDING TANKS

2003.1 LPI Approval: The plumbing inspector may approve the permanent use of a holding tank proposed

HOLDING TANKS

by a site evaluator to replace a malfunctioning system or an alternative toilet.

(1) Malfunctioning system: The present system poses a threat or a potential threat to ground or surface water quality, to public health or safety, or to the environment; or,

(2) Alternative toilet replacement: An alternative toilet may be replaced by a flush toilet and holding tank if the existing structure is served by pressurized water and a legal gray wastewater system including treatment tank and disposal field.

(3) Application meets all criteria: The application meets all requirements of Section 2002.0.

SECTION 2004.0 FIRST TIME HOLDING TANKS WITH LOCAL ORDINANCE

2004.1 LPI Approval: The plumbing inspector may approve the permanent use of a holding tank for up to 2000 gpd as a first time system provided all the following requirements are met. Holding tanks for flows greater than 2000 gpd must be referred to the Department.

(1) Local ordinance: The municipality has a holding tank ordinance similar to the model ordinance in Appendix A, and has adopted this Section or an ordinance with similar or more strict provisions, a copy of which has been sent to the Department; and

(2) Application meets all criteria: The application meets all requirements of the ordinance and Section 2002.0.

SECTION 2005.0 FIRST TIME HOLDING TANKS WITHOUT LOCAL ORDINANCE

2005.1 Approval criteria: If the municipality has not adopted a holding tank ordinance under Chapter 20 and Appendix A, holding tanks for residential first time use are not allowed. The plumbing inspector may approve the permanent use of a holding tank for nonresidential structures provided all the following requirements are met:

(1) Use: The facility served must not require a license as an eating establishment from the Department.

(2) Design Flow: The flow must not exceed 100 gallons per day or 500 gallons per week. Flows greater than 100 gallons per day or 500 gallons per week are to be referred to the Department.

(3) Application meets all criteria: The application meets all requirements of Section 2002.0.

SECTION 2006.0 TEMPORARY HOLDING TANKS

2006.1 Temporary use: As a temporary means of wastewater disposal during alteration or repair of an existing system, the plumbing inspector may approve the use of a wastewater holding tank or a septic tank temporarily modified to serve as a holding tank for up to 2000 gpd. This use may not exceed 90 days. Temporary holding tanks do not require a holding tank application.

2006.2 Future public sewer connection: As a temporary means of wastewater collection, a local plumbing inspector may permit use of a holding tank by a facility for up to 365 days when physical connection to a public sewer is anticipated as stated in writing by the sanitary district. It is the responsibility of the sanitary district to insure that the holding tank is maintained in a sanitary manner. A holding tank application is not required for this instance. This permit may be extended for an additional 365 days if necessary.

CHAPTER 21

MEANS OF APPEAL

SECTION 2100.0 GENERAL

2100.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the means of appealing a decision made by the Department pertaining to a variance to this code, a minimum lot size reduction request, or a code interpretation. Any appeal to a decision made by a Local Plumbing Inspector is made through the municipal officers.

2100.2 Appellant: For the purpose of this Chapter, the “appellant” is any party wishing to contest a decision by the Department on a variance request, Minimum Lot Size Law waiver request or code interpretation, or a person lawfully acting on the behalf of an appellant.

2100.3 Grounds for appeal: For the purpose of this Chapter, the grounds for appeal are limited to: (1) violation of the law or rules; (2) misapplication of the law or rules; or (3) a factual mistake that is likely to affect the decision.

2100.4 Aggrieved party: For the purpose of this Chapter, the appellant must specify in writing (1) the manner in which he or she is aggrieved; (2) the nature of harm he or she has suffered or is likely to suffer as a result of the Department’s decision; and (3) the relief sought.

2100.5 Settlement: Parties to a Formal Conference or a Formal Administrative Hearing may negotiate a mutually acceptable settlement at any point during the proceedings.

2100.6 Stopping Work: A formal, written request for a Formal Conference or Formal Administrative Hearing is cause for the Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) to be notified by the Department to issue a Stop Work Order pending completion of the review process.

SECTION 2101.0 NOTICE

2101.1 General: The Department shall inform the appellant and any entitled abutters, in writing, of its intention to grant, deny, terminate, or suspend a variance or waiver issued pursuant to this code or code interpretation.

2101.2 Written Decision: Granting or denial of a variance, waiver or the issuance of a code interpretation must be provided in writing.

SECTION 2102.0 APPEAL PROCEDURE

2102.1 General: The appeal procedure consists of three (3) levels of appeals. It must proceed in the following sequence:

- (1) **Step 1:** A formal conference;
- (2) **Step 2:** A formal administrative hearing; and
- (3) **Step 3:** A judicial review.

SECTION 2103.0 APPEAL FEES

2103.1 General: An administrative appeal fee for a formal conference or a formal administrative hearing must be levied as follows:

- (1) **Formal conference fee:** An administrative appeal fee of \$50.00.
- (2) **Formal administrative hearing fee:** An administrative appeal fee of \$75.00; and
- (3) **Judicial review fee:** Subject to judicial procedures.

2103.2 Exemption: Individuals who can prove they are qualified to receive public benefits, such as Medicaid or AFDC are exempt from the administrative fees listed in 2103.1.1, “Formal conference fee”, and 2103.1.2, “Formal administrative hearing fee”. Procedures for demonstrating eligibility must be consistent with those utilized in the benefit programs. The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services may grant a fee exemption when it is determined to be appropriate.

2103.3 Administrative Fee Payment: A check for the appropriate amount must be made out for the “Treasurer of State.” The check must be sent to: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Environmental Health, Subsurface Wastewater Program. Payment must be made prior to scheduling any Formal Conference or Administrative Hearing.

SECTION 2104.0 REQUEST FOR FORMAL CONFERENCE

2104.1 General: To appeal a decision of the Department, the appellant shall submit a written request for a formal conference. The appellant shall submit the request to the Department within thirty (30) days of the date of the Department’s written decision. The request must include the following:

- (1) **Intention:** The intended/requested appeal action; and
- (2) **Reason(s):** The reasons that support the intended action, including: (1) violation of the law or rules; (2) misapplication of the law or rules; and/or (3) factual mistake that is likely to affect the decision.
- (3) **Aggrieved party:** A written statement which specifies the person or persons seeking a formal conference and the manner in which they are aggrieved as specified under Section 2100.4.

2104.2 Limiting the issues: Before the formal conference, the appellant shall raise all issues upon which he or she appeals the decision.

MEANS OF APPEAL

SECTION 2105.0 FORMAL CONFERENCE

2105.1 Intent: This section sets forth the procedures to be used for formal conferences.

2105.2 Written request: The written request must be mailed to:

Director, Division of Environmental Health
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

2105.3 Scheduling the conference: As soon as practicable, the Department shall notify the appellant of the date, time, and place of the formal conference.

2105.4 Conference officer: The formal conference will be conducted by the Director of the Division of Environmental Health, or his or her designee.

2105.5 Conference Location: The Conference Officer shall schedule a conference in Augusta, Maine.

2105.6 Representation: At the formal conference, the appellant may be represented by legal counsel or any other representative on his or her behalf. The applicant and/or owner of the property for which the appeal has been filed may attend the formal conference and may be represented by legal counsel or any other representative on his or her behalf.

2105.7 Disputed issues: The appellant or representative shall raise all issues about which he or she disagrees with the Department's decision. He or she may present new evidence or information or otherwise present arguments in response to the Department's intended action. Failure to raise any issues at the formal conference must be deemed a waiver of any appeal rights on those issues.

2105.8 Written decision: Following the formal conference, the Director shall issue a written decision to the appellant which must affirm, modify, or revoke the initial and intended decision of the Department.

SECTION 2106.0 FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

2106.1 Intent: This section sets forth the procedures to be used for formal administrative hearings.

2106.2 Hearing request: If the appellant is dissatisfied with the written decision of the formal conference, he or she may appeal that decision by submitting a written "Request for Administrative Hearing" within thirty (30) days of the date of the written formal conference decision to:

Chief Hearings Officer
Office of Administrative Hearing
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

(1) Request: The request to the Office of Administrative Hearings must be accompanied by a copy of the fair hearing report.

(2) No Request: If the appellant does not request the hearing within the thirty (30) day time period

absent good cause, the hearing may be denied by the Office of Administrative Hearings.

(3) Disclosure: If the appellant does not set forth the issues aggrieved, the request for hearing may be denied by the Office of Administrative Hearings.

2106.3 Issues on appeal: The request must state the specific issues being appealed.

2106.4 Hearing officer: An impartial hearing officer shall conduct the administrative hearing.

2106.5 Representation: At the hearing, the appellant may be represented by legal counsel or any other representative on his or her behalf.

2106.6 Hearing conduct: The hearing will be conducted pursuant to the rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, as set forth in the Administrative Hearing Manual, and in conformity with the administrative procedure action 5 MRSA §8001, et. seq.

2106.7 Hearing location and date: A notice will inform the appellant of the time, date, and place of the hearing. The hearing will be held in Augusta, Maine unless otherwise noted. The hearing date will be at least twenty (20) days following the date of the notice of the administrative hearing.

2106.8 Decision: The hearing officer shall issue a written decision of administrative hearing to all parties. The Hearing Officer shall submit recommended findings of facts and a recommended decision to the Commissioner. Parties have twenty (20) days to file written exceptions and responses with the Office of the Commissioner. The Commissioner may reserve jurisdiction to issue the final decision.

SECTION 2107.0 JUDICIAL REVIEW

2107.1 Judicial review: Any person or party dissatisfied with the hearing officer's decision has the right of judicial review under the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 80C.

CHAPTER 22

DRIP IRRIGATION DISPOSAL

SECTION 2200.0 GENERAL

2200.1 Scope: This Chapter governs the design and installation of drip irrigation disposal systems.

SECTION 2201.0

2201.1 General: A drip irrigation disposal system receives effluent from a treatment tank and dispenses it to an infiltration system that is installed at a shallow depth in native or fill soil. The Department may require a layer of soil, mulch, or other engineered fill cover on the surface of the native soil, depending on wastewater quality delivered to the drip emitters.

2201.2 Nuisance Prevention: All drip irrigation systems must be designed to prevent effluent ponding on the soil surface.

2202.0 APPLICATION

2202.1 Application: Applications for drip irrigation systems must include the following provisions.

2202.2 Advanced Treatment: Documentation the advanced treatment method proposed achieves the effluent criteria specified in Tables 2200.1 and 2200.2, such as the type of advanced treatment system and the manufacturer's warranty;

2202.3 Design Calculations: Design calculations, showing conformance with provisions of this Chapter; and

2202.4 Application (HHE-200 Form): An application completed in conformance with this code by a licensed Site Evaluator.

SECTION 2203.0 SIZING

2203.1 General: Drip irrigation disposal systems must be sized as follows:

2203.2 Porous Hose System: A drip irrigation system utilizing porous hose must be sized pursuant to the specific product's approval granted by the Department.

2203.3 Drip Emitter System: A drip irrigation system utilizing manufactured drip emitters must be sized pursuant to the manufacturer's recommendations, as approved by the Department.

SECTION 2204.0 INSTALLATION

2204.1 General: Drip irrigation systems must be installed in conformance with the following criteria.

2204.2 Separation from limiting factor: All drip irrigation lines must be installed at least 12 inches above the groundwater table or 24 inches above bedrock, whichever is more limiting. Backfill or mulch must be placed over the top of the porous hose in sufficient quantity and depth as specified by the system supplier to prevent surface ponding of effluent.

2204.3 Separation from site features: All drip irrigation systems must be installed in conformance with

horizontal setback requirements specified in Chapter 7 of this code.

2204.4 Line spacing: Drip irrigation lines must be placed at least 12 inches apart unless variations in spacing allow preservation of existing trees and shrubs or enhance performance to overcome site limitations. The Site Evaluator shall note such variations on the application.

2204.5 Protection from freezing: Year round drip irrigation systems must be installed with a minimum of 12 inches of suitable cover material to prevent freezing of the disposal area.

APPENDIX A

MODEL HOLDING TANK ORDINANCE

This Appendix is not intended to be enforced as part of the code's minimum requirements.

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the [Selectmen] [Councilmen] of the [Town][City][Township], [County Name], and it is hereby enacted and ordained as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish procedures for the use and maintenance of holding tanks designed to receive and retain wastewater from residential or commercial uses. It is hereby declared that the enactment of this Ordinance is necessary for the protection, benefit, and preservation of the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of this municipality.

Section 2. Definitions. Unless the context specifically and clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this Ordinance is as follows:

“Authority” means [Selectmen][Councilmen] of [Town][City][Township], [County Name] County, Maine.

Holding tank: A closed, watertight structure designed and used to receive and store wastewater or septic tank effluent. A holding tank does not discharge wastewater or septic tank effluent to surface or ground water or onto the surface of the ground. Holding tanks are designed and constructed to facilitate ultimate disposal of wastewater at another site.

“Improved property” means any property within the municipality upon which there is a structure intended for continuous or periodic habitation, occupancy, or use by humans or animals and from which structure wastewater may be discharged.

“Municipality” means [Town][City][Township], [County Name] County, Maine.

“Owner” means any person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, of any property located in the municipality.

“Person” means any individual, partnership, company, association, corporation, or other group or entity.

“Wastewater” means any domestic wastewater, or other wastewater from commercial, industrial, or residential sources which has constituents similar to that of domestic wastewater. This term specifically excludes industrial, hazardous, or toxic wastes and materials.

Section 3. Rights and privileges granted. The Authority is hereby authorized and empowered to undertake, within the municipality, the control of and methods of disposal of holding tank wastewater and the collection and transportation thereof.

Section 4. Rules and regulations to be in conformity with applicable law. All such rules and regulations adopted by the Authority must be in conformity with the provisions herein, all other ordinances of the [Town][City][Township], all applicable laws, and

applicable rules and regulations of the administrative agencies of the State of Maine. Holding tanks can not be used for seasonal conversion or new construction within the shoreland zone of a major water course.

Section 5. Rates and changes. The Authority shall have the right and power to fix, alter, charge, and collect rates, assessments, and other charges in the area served by its facilities at reasonable and uniform rates as authorized by applicable law.

Section 6. Exclusiveness of rights and privileges. The collection and transportation of all wastewater from any improved property utilizing a holding tank must be done solely by, or under the direction and control of, the Authority, and the disposal thereof must be made at such site or sites as may be approved by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 7. Duties of owner of improved property. The owner of an improved property that utilizes a holding tank must:

A. Maintain the holding tank in conformance with this or any other Ordinance of this [Town][City][Township], the provisions of any applicable law, the rules and regulations of the Authority, and any administrative agency of the State of Maine; and

B. Permit only the Authority, or its agent, to collect, transport, and dispose of the contents therein.

Section 8. Violations. Any person who violates any provisions of Section 7 must, upon conviction thereof by summary proceedings, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than One Hundred and not more than Three Hundred dollars, plus costs.

Section 9. Abatement of nuisances. In addition to any other remedies provided in this ordinance, any violation of Section 7 above constitutes a nuisance and must be abated by the municipality or Authority by seeking appropriate equitable or legal relief from a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 10. Alternative disposal. An alternative means of wastewater disposal must meet first time system criteria. Replacement system criteria must not be considered.

Section 11. Repeal. All ordinances or resolutions, or parts of ordinances or resolutions, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

Section 12. Severability. If any sentence, clause, Section, or part of this ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal, or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality, or invalidity must not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this ordinance.

Section 13. Effective date. This ordinance becomes effective five days after its adoption.

MODEL HOLDING TANK ORDINANCE

ENACTED AND ORDAINED into an Ordinance this [Day]day of [Month]A.D., [Year] of the [Selectmen] [Councilmen] of the [Town][City][Township] of [County] County in lawful session duly assembled.

[Selectmen][Councilmen] of the [Town][City][Township] of

APPENDIX B

PROPRIETARY DISPOSAL DEVICES AND SEPTIC TANK FILTERS

B-100.0 ALL DEVICES

B-100.1 General: Approved proprietary disposal devices may be used in lieu of a stone filled disposal field. A potential purchaser is advised to obtain information pertaining to the relative cost, availability, installation procedures, method of wastewater distribution, and specific design considerations.

B-100.2 Requirements: The use of proprietary disposal devices may be approved, provided they meet the following conditions:

(1) **Condition 1:** The square footage of the bottom and sidewall area of proprietary disposal devices varies from one manufacturer to another. Therefore, the required number of proprietary disposal devices from a specific manufacturer is determined by dividing its standard stone-filled square-footage equivalent into the total bottom and sidewall area, determined by multiplying the appropriate minimum hydraulic loading rate, from Table 600.1 and the design flow, from Chapter 5;

(2) **Condition 2:** When proprietary disposal devices are used in a cluster configuration, only the unshielded bottom area can be used to determine its standard stone-filled disposal-field equivalent.

(3) **Condition 3:** When proprietary disposal devices are used in a trench configuration, only the sum of its unshielded bottom and sidewall area can be used to determine its standard stone-filled disposal-field equivalent;

(4) **Condition 4:** The number of proprietary disposal devices must be rounded up to the nearest whole disposal device;

(5) **Condition 5:** The separation distance between groups of proprietary disposal devices is identical to the distances required for a standard stone filled disposal field;

(6) **Condition 6:** Gravity, low pressure, or serial distribution may be used.

(7) **Condition 7:** Proprietary disposal devices must be installed level and must be bedded and covered per each manufacturer's recommendations; and

(8) **Condition 8:** In all other respects, each proprietary disposal device installation must comply with this code.

B101.0 CONCRETE DISPOSAL DEVICES

B101.1 Manufacturers:

Please refer to the Department's website for a list of approved manufacturers who sell devices which meet the criteria of B-100.2 above.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>

B-101.2 Sizing requirements for 4 foot x 8 foot disposal devices:

When used in clusters, the disposal fields are sized according to bottom area only. Each 4-foot-by-8-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 64 square feet.

When used in trenches with one foot of stones along the 4-foot sidewalls, each 4-foot-by-8-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 77 square feet. A separation distance of 3 feet from edge of stone to edge of stone is required when used in trench configuration.

When used in trenches with one foot of stone along the 8 foot sidewalls, each 4-foot-by-8-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 90 square feet. A separation distance of 3 feet from edge of stone to edge of stone is required when used in trench configuration.

B-101.3 Sizing requirements for 8 foot x 8 foot disposal devices:

When used in clusters, each 8 foot by 8 foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 128 square feet.

When used in trenches with one foot of stone along two sidewalls, each 8-foot-by-8-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 154 square feet. A separation distance of 3 feet from edge of stone to edge of stone is required when used in trench configuration.

B-101.4 Sizing requirements for 4 foot x 10 foot disposal devices:

When used in clusters, each 4-foot-by-10-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 80 square feet.

When used in trenches with one foot of stone along the 4-foot sidewalls, each 4-foot-by-10-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 93 square feet. When used in trenches with one foot of stone along the 10-foot sidewalls, each 4-foot-by-10-foot disposal device has an effective disposal infiltration area of 113 square feet. A separation distance of 3 feet from edge of stone to edge of stone is required when used in trench configuration.

B-102.0 PLASTIC DISPOSAL DEVICES

B-102.1 Manufacturers:

Please refer to the Department's website for a list of approved manufacturers who sell devices which meet the criteria of B-100.2 above.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>

B-102.2 Configuration: These devices may be installed in trench or cluster configuration. A three-foot horizontal spacing must be maintained between trenches. This spacing is in addition to any coarse material used adjacent to the devices.

PROPRIETARY DISPOSAL DEVICES AND SEPTIC TANK FILTERS

B-102.3 Sizing: These devices have an effective disposal infiltration area in square feet per linear foot as specified on the Department's website
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>.

TABLE B-103.2

Sizing for "Bio-Diffuser", "Infiltrator", "EnviroChamber", and "Contactor" proprietary disposal devices

Device	Model	Height	Configuration	
			Cluster	Trench
Bio-Diffuser	Standard	11"	36 sq ft/unit	44 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Bio-Diffuser	High Capacity	14"	36 sq ft/unit	50 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Bio-Diffuser	High Capacity	16"	36 sq ft/unit	50 sq ft/unit
Bio-Diffuser	Bio 2	12"	18 sq ft/unit	28.8 sq ft/unit
Bio-Diffuser	Bio 3	12"	26.4 sq ft/unit	43.2 sq ft/unit
Infiltrator	EQ 24	11"	33.3 sq ft/unit ^[b]	33.3 sq ft/unit ^[c,d]
Infiltrator	Standard	12"	36 sq ft/unit	44 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Infiltrator	High Capacity	16"	36 sq ft/unit	50 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Enviro Chamber	Standard	16"	36 sq ft/unit	44 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Enviro Chamber	High Capacity	17"	36 sq ft/unit	50 sq ft/unit ^[a]
Contactor	EZ-24	12"	16.5 sq ft/unit	6.21 sq ft/linear ft
Contactor 75	Contactor "C"	12"	36 sq ft/unit	44 sq ft/unit ^[e]
Contactor 100	100	12"	48 sq ft/unit	57 sq ft/unit
Contactor 125	125	18"	36 sq ft/unit	50 sq ft/unit ^[e]
Contactor	Recharger 180	20"	44 sq ft/unit	63 sq ft/unit
Contactor 375	Tripdrain	30"	64 sq ft/unit	90 sq ft/unit ^[e]
Contactor	Recharger 330	30"	65.25 sq ft/unit	98.25 sq ft/unit
Contactor	Recharger 400	32"	29 sq ft/unit	57.6 sq ft/linear ft
Contactor	Field Drain C1-C4	8"	57.8 sq ft/unit	N/A

[a] 36" from edge to edge (stone to stone, if stone is used).

[b] 12" from edge to edge on level systems (see manufacturer's installation guide).

[c] 18" edge to edge for single row trenches.

[d] 6" edge to edge in 2 rows per trench with 36" between trenches.

[e] 6' from center to center in trench configuration.

B-103.0 GRAVEL-LESS FABRIC WRAPPED DISPOSAL TUBING

B-103.1 Manufacturers:

Please refer to the Department's website for a list of approved manufacturers who sell devices which meet the criteria of B-100.2 above.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>

B-103.2 Configuration: Use of gravel-less fabric covered disposal field tubing is restricted to trench configurations.

B-103.3 Sizing: These devices have an effective disposal infiltration area of 5.0 square feet per linear foot.

TABLE B-104.3

Sizing for "GeoFlow" and "Enviro-Septic" gravel-less cloth fabric disposal tubing

Device	Model	Configuration+	
		Cluster	Trench
GeoFlow	10"	N/A	5.0 sq ft per linear ft ^[a]
Enviro-Septic	12"	N/A	5.0 sq ft per linear ft ^[b]

[a] 2.5' center to center

[b] center to center spacing per manufacturer's installation manual

B104.0 GEOTEXTILE SAND FILTERS

104.1 Manufacturers:

Please refer to the Department's website for a list of approved manufacturers who sell devices which meet the criteria of B-100.2 above.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>

104.2 Configuration: A minimum of 12 inches horizontal spacing must be maintained between all rows of geotextile sand filters.

104.3 Sizing: These devices have an effective disposal infiltration area of 12 square feet per linear foot.

TABLE B-104.4

Sizing for "Geotextile Sand Filter" gravel-less cloth disposal system

Device	Model	Configuration	
		Cluster ^[b]	Trench ^[a]
GSF	Type A	24 sq ft/unit	24 sq ft/unit
GSF	Type B	48 sq ft/unit	48 sq ft/unit

[a] 4' and 6', center to center, type A units and type B units, respectively.

[b] A minimum of 12" of spacing between rows of In-Drains for systems that have all the rows at the same elevation. Cluster installations that have rows that step down slopes of 15 percent or less shall have a minimum spacing of 12" between adjacent rows. Step down clustered installations on slopes of 15 percent to 20 percent shall have a minimum spacing of 24" between adjacent rows.

B-105.0 PRE-TREATMENT

B-105.1 Sand filters: Pre-treatment sand filters must be designed, installed and maintained in conformance with the guidelines set forth in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Design Manual On-site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems, EPA-625/1-80-012.

The specific guidance Sections are:

B-105.1.1 Intermittent sand filters: EPA-625/1-80-012 Section 6.3.

B-105.1.2 Buried sand filters: EPA-625/1-80-012 Section 6.3.

B-105.1.3 Free Access sand filters (Non-recirculating): EPA-625/1-80-012 Section 6.3.

B-105.1.4 Recirculating sand filter: EPA-625/1-80-012 Section 6.3.

B-106.0 SEPTIC TANK FILTERS

B-106.1 General: Septic tank outlet filters perform two primary functions; retains the solids in the tank and lowers the BOD. A potential purchaser is advised to obtain information pertaining to the recommended model, relative cost, availability, installation and maintenance procedures and flow rates from the manufacturer or distributor.

Please refer to the Department's website for a list of approved manufacturers who sell devices which meet the criteria of B-100.2 above.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/about.htm>

B-106.2 Manufacturers:

B-106.2.1 Zabel Septic Tank Filter: Zabel Industries International, Ltd., 3600 Chamberlain Lane, Suite 612, Louisville, Kentucky 40241 1-800-221-5742 Fax (502) 339-8669.

B-106.2.2 Orenco Septic Tank Effluent Filter: Orenco Systems, Inc., 2826 Colonial Road, Roseburg, Oregon 97470 (503) 673-0165 Fax (503) 673-1126.

B-106.2.3 Zoeller Septic Tank Effluent Filter: Zoeller Pump Co., Attn: Kenneth E. Zoeller, VP, PO Box 16347, Louisville, KY 40256-0347.

B-106.2.4 Bio Weir In Tank Filter - septic tank outlet filter. Contact: Bio Weir, Inc., Attn.: John W. Estep, 11 College Avenue, Newman, Georgia 30263.

B-106.2.5 Polylok Septic Tank Filter - septic tank outlet filter. Contact: Polylok, Inc., 173 Church Street, Yalesville, CT 06492.

B-106.2.6 Presby Maze - integral septic tank solids separator. Contact: Presby Environmental, Inc., Attn.: David Presby, Box 617, Sugar Hill, New Hampshire 03585-0617. (603) 823-5298.

B-106.3 Approved model numbers:

B-106.3.1 Zabel Filter Models A100, A300, and A1800.

B-106.3.2 Orenco Filter Models 0842, 1248, and 1548.

B-106.3.3 Zoeller Filter Models P/N 170-0023, P/N 170-0016, P/N 170-0017.

B-107.0 Alternative and Experimental Systems

B-107.1 SeptiTech wastewater treatment system has been granted final approval for a product designed to treat domestic sewage effluent in an aerobic treatment tank, with an attendant decrease in the size of a proprietary design area designated for final disposal of the treated effluent. Contact: SeptiTech, Inc. 70 Commercial Street, Suite 3, Lewiston, Maine 04240. 207-333-6940 or info@septitech.com.

B-107.2 Single Home FAST Treatment Plant, Model #23-001-750, aerobic treatment plant. Contact: J & R Engineered Products, Inc., Attn.: Lewis B. Paine, P.O. Box 417, Auburn, ME 04212-4752. (207)782-4752.

B-107.3 AWT Bioclere aerobic treatment plant. Contact: AWT Environmental, Inc., Attn.: Mark Lubbers, Vice President, P.O. Box 50120, New Bedford, MA 02745.

B-107.4 Puraflo Peat Biofilter domestic wastewater treatment system. This product consists of manufactured, prepackaged peat filtration and treatment system modules. Individual system designs shall require prior review and approval by the Division, pursuant to Section 13 of the Rules. Contact: Bord Na Mona, Attn.: Joe Walsh, President, P.O. Box 77457, Greensboro, NC 27417.

B-107.5 Wastech: WASTECH has been granted experimental approval for its STM-2000 model which consists of an influent solids separation chamber, a microwave solids incineration chamber, and a ceramic greywater filter. Also approved is the CS-4000 model which consists of the STM-2000 model followed by a second module that further treats the effluent from the STM-2000 through media filtration and ultraviolet disinfection. Contact: Wastech International, Inc. Attn.: Guy Marchessault, Senior Vice President, 210 West Road, #7, Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801-5693.

B-107.6 OxyPro: The Aeration Systems OxyPro fixed film activated sludge has been approved for use in Maine. The units are designed to treat domestic sewage effluent in an aerobic treatment tank, with a 50% decrease in the size of the final disposal. Contact: Aeration Systems, 155 Gray Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105.

B-107.7 CMS ROTORDISK Sewage Treatment System. The CMS ROTORDISK Sewage Treatment System consists of rotating biological disks in a self-contained primary and secondary settling tank. The number of disks varies with system capacity, which ranges from 360 gallons per day (gpd) (Model S12) fixed film activated sludge has been approved for use in Maine. The units are designed to treat domestic sewage effluent in an aerobic treatment tank, with a 50% decrease in the size of the final disposal. Contact: Aeration Systems, 155 Gray Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105.

B-107.7 CMS ROTORDISK Sewage Treatment System. The CMS ROTORDISK Sewage Treatment System consists of rotating biological disks in a self-contained primary and secondary settling tank. The number of disks varies with system capacity, which ranges from 360 gallons per day (gpd) (Model S12) to 100,000 gpd (Model L1500). This product has received General Use approval. Contact: Huron Environmental, Attn.: Timothy G. Warrow, 67 Woodland Road, Windham, ME 04062-5608

B-107.8 SeptiTech Porous Drip Hose System. This system has received revised General Use approval. The SeptiTech porous hose system size rating is approved at the equivalent of 1.33 square feet of disposal area per linear foot of hose. SeptiTech porous drip hose installations are approved for year round when covered with at least one foot (12 inches) of suitable cover material, extending for a width of 2.5 feet on center, and protected with at least 1.5 feet (18 inches) on center of plastic insulation board with a minimum R value of 4, adjacent to and above the hose. Contact SeptiTech, Inc., 70 Commercial Street, Suite 3, Lewiston, Maine 04240. 207-333-6940 or info@septitech.com.

B-107.9 Terralift and Terralift 2000. Terralift is a pneumatic device designed to restore onsite sewage disposal systems and improve systems of less than optimal performance, by creating a fractured soil condition adjacent to the disposal area into which effluent can drain, as well as "breaking up" the disposal area's bio-mat. Terralift is acceptable for use in the State of Maine on a **conditional basis**, provided that it is operated in conformance with stringent conditions relating to protection of ground and surface water supplies. Contact: Terralift Inc., Attn.: Steve McBrian, 104 E. Main Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

B-107.10 Knight Treatment Systems White Knight. The **White Knight** consists of a 12 inch diameter hexagonal plastic tube within which is a four inch diameter plastic tube filled with loose fill plastic media. A remote air pump feeds air to a proprietary diffuser beneath the cusped plates. A biological film is generated, which adheres to the plastic media and provides treatment of water-borne contaminants. An outlet filter prevents solids carryover. The Knight Treatment Systems White Knight is inserted into conventional septic tanks, and a proprietary inoculant is introduced at regular intervals. This product has received Provisional Approval. This product was formerly approved under the name **Pirahna**. Contact: Knight Treatment Systems, Attn.: Jay Knight, 281 Country Route 51A, Oswego, NY 13126

B-108.0 Post-Septic Tank Treatment

B-108.1 FRICKle Filter: A multiple chamber, gravity flow filter device using anaerobic and aerobic processes. Provides reduction in BOD⁵, TSS, fecal coliform bacteria, and total nitrogen levels generally on the order of 50 percent. Use of a FRICKle Filter in a replacement system is allowed a 20 percent reduction to the base design flow, due to the improved quality of the effluent. Use of a FRICKle Filter in a first time system shall be assessed 10 points toward a first time system variance, if applicable.

B-109.0 Substitution of Proprietary Devices

B-109.1 The substitution of one approved proprietary device for another requires the preparation of a new or revised HHE-200 form except as provided for in Section B-109.2.

B-109.2 The following proprietary devices may be substituted for one another without revisions to the permitted HHE-200 form unless specifically prohibited by notation of the licensed site evaluator. The bottom elevation(s) specified on the original HHE-200 form must be utilized with the substituted devices.

- a) Concrete Chambers – Any approved manufacturer's 4'x8' or 8'x8' chamber may be substituted for another approved manufacturer's 4'x8' or 8'x8' chamber provided the original disposal area configuration is maintained.
- b) Plastic Chambers – Substitution of one approved device for another is permitted as noted in Table B-109-1. When the trench configuration is utilized, the number of trenches specified for the original design must be maintained with the substituted devices. When a device of a different length than the originally specified device is substituted, the minimum square footage specified on the original HHE-200 form governs.

PROPRIETARY DISPOSAL DEVICES AND SEPTIC TANK FILTERS

**TABLE B-109.1
PERMITTED SUBSTITUTION OF PROPRIETARY DEVICES**

		Bio-Diffuser					Infiltrator			Enviro Chamber		Contactor				Enviro-Septic		GeoFlow	
		STD	14" HC	16" HC	Bio 2	Bio 3	EQ 24	STD	HC	STD	HC	EZ 24	75	100	125				
Bio-Diffuser	STD	X						X		X			X						
	14" HC		X						X		X				X				
	16" HC			X															
	Bio 2				X		X												
	Bio 3					X													
Infiltrator	EQ 24					X	X												
	STD	X						X		X			X						
	HC			X					X		X				X				
Enviro Chamber	STD	X						X		X									
	HC			X					X		X								
Contactor	EZ 24											X							
	75	X						X		X			X						
	100													X					
	125			X					X		X				X				
Enviro-Septic																	X		X
GeoFlow																	X		X

APPENDIX C
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
REVIEW OF SUBSURFACE SANITARY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Environmental Health, (DEH) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Watershed Management (DEP), agree as follows:

1. Public Law 1995, Chapter 704, Sec. A-26 reads as follows: "The Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health and Human Services shall identify changes to the subsurface wastewater disposal rules and other relevant rules and statutes needed to address the potential for adverse impacts on groundwater quality from engineered disposal fields and the Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt any such changes to its rules. The Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health and Human Services shall enter into a memorandum of agreement under which the DEP shall provide review of potential water quality impacts from large subsurface wastewater disposal systems."
 2. The Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality is responsible for recommending the classification of all groundwaters of the state and for protecting the quality of groundwater through its waste discharge licensing program and site location permitting program.
 3. The Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Environmental Health administers the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules (10 CMR 241), which regulates the subsurface disposal of wastewater from private disposal systems, and is responsible for final decisions on applications made pursuant to these Rules. As defined at 10 CMR 241 Section 201.0 [301.0], "wastewater" means any domestic wastewater, or other wastewater from commercial, industrial, or residential sources which has constituents similar to that of domestic wastewater.
 4. As part of the process of reviewing all engineered disposal systems, as defined at 10 CMR 241 Section 1600.1 [1100.1], DEP will provide assistance to DEH in evaluating the environmental impacts of these systems, in accordance with budgetary and staff limitations. On a case-by-case basis, DEH may also submit applications for approval of experimental technology, as defined under 10 CMR 214 [241], Chapter 18, to DEP for review, and DEP will provide assistance to DEH in evaluating the environmental impacts of these technologies, in accordance with budgetary and staff limitations.
 5. After an application or request for an engineered system has been determined to be acceptable for processing by DEH, DEH will send a copy of the available information on the proposal to DEP.
 6. DEP will, in its review, consider the following where appropriate:
 - a) the geology of the project area and vicinity;
 - b) the primary, secondary, and cumulative effects of a project on the quality of groundwater and the impact of degradation of groundwater quality on the natural environment and water quality of any surface water; and
 - c) to the extent that DEP is aware of them, the private and public uses of groundwater and surface water resources in the project area and vicinity.
 7. Within 20 working days of the request for review, or within other such time frame as mutually agreed upon, DEP shall, by interoffice memorandum or by electronic mail, either:
 - a) submit comments indicating that DEP has found no reason to believe that normal operation of the disposal system will result in unreasonable adverse impact on the natural environment or other uses of groundwater and surface water;
 - b) submit comments on the proposal which explain the project impacts on groundwater and surface water resources, along with recommendations for DEH action on the project, including a justification for any recommended denial or conditions of approval; or
 - c) submit a request for additional information or clarification of information, stating specifically the nature of the information requested and explaining why such information is necessary to fulfill the obligations specified in the Agreement.
- If DEP is unable to complete its review of a project within 20 working days, it will submit, by the comment deadline, a written statement to DEH explaining that the review was not completed and requesting a specified additional amount of time to comment, with written notice to the applicant(s). Decisions to extend comment deadlines will be made by DEH on a case-by-case basis, with written notice to the applicants. If no comment or request for a specified additional amount of time is received

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

from DEP within 20 working days, then DEH will assume that DEP has no concerns about the system and will act accordingly.

8. In those cases for which the conditions of DEH approval of an engineered system require the submission of additional plans or data for review, DEH will send copies of the plans or data to DEP for review and comment in accordance with the terms outlined above, unless the opportunity for such review and comment is specifically waived by DEP.
9. DEH will consider DEP's recommendations for action on the proposed disposal system, and will incorporate them in DEH's final action as appropriate. Any disagreements will be discussed and resolved if possible at the staff level. Any disagreements not resolved at the staff level will be taken to the Director of the Division of Environmental Health and the Director of the DEP Bureau of Land and Water Quality for resolution.
10. DEH will provide DEP with a copy of all permitting actions taken on engineered disposal systems and experimental technology, as described above.
11. DEP will provide DEH with a copy of all permitting actions on projects involving subsurface disposal systems that are reviewed under the Site Location of Development Act.
12. DEH will, on a continuing basis, provide DEP with copies of current revised versions of the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and any statutes, advisory opinions, technical notes, and other information relating to engineered systems, in such quantities as requested by DEP. DEH will also solicit comment from DEP on any proposed policies or rules relating to the use of engineered systems for subsurface wastewater disposal.
13. DEP will, on a continuing basis, provide DEH with copies of current revised versions of the Site Location of Development Regulations and any statutes, advisory opinions and policies relating to subsurface wastewater disposal, in such quantities as requested by DEH. DEP will also solicit comment from DEH on any proposed policies or rules relating to engineered systems for subsurface wastewater disposal.
14. Copies of this Agreement will be provided to all DEH and DEP staff reviewing engineered systems under the terms of this Agreement.
15. Notification of this MOA will be made by DEH to all Site Evaluators and all practicing Licensed Professional Engineers of record who have provided subsurface designs to the Division of Environmental Health.
16. This Memorandum of Agreement applies to all engineered systems, including those which may be part of a development regulated under the Site Location of Development Act (38 M.R.S.A., Section 481 et seq.). Review of engineered systems in developments regulated under the Site Location of Development Act will be subject to the conditions of this MOA.
17. DEP and DEH will consult at least annually to identify changes to the subsurface wastewater disposal rules and other relevant rules and statutes needed to address the potential for adverse impacts on groundwater quality from engineered systems.
18. The terms of this Agreement shall be subject to review and revision at any time upon request by either DEH or DEP.

APPENDIX D

FORMS

SECTION D-100.0 LIST OF FORMS AND NUMBERS

HHE-200 Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System Application (3 pages)
HHE-204 Replacement System Variance Request (Section 1906.0)
HHE-215 First Time System Variance Request (Section 1901.2.1; 1904.1)
HHE-233 Application/Agreement for Holding Tank Installation (Section 2001.2.2)
HHE-234 Notice of Intent to Install a Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System (Section 1703.3.2)
HHE-236 Application for Variance to the Minimum Lot Size Law Requirements
HHE-238A Statement of Compliance (Section 111.10, 120.3.2, and 1202.4)
HHE-238B Affidavit of Site Preparation (Section 111.5.1)
| HHE-238C Inspection Checklist (Section 111.11)
HHE-300 Holding Tank Deed Covenant (Section 2002.1.5)
HHE-304 Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Variance Deed Covenant (Section 1904.7)

SECTION D-101.0 FORM SAMPLES

D-101.1 Samples of the forms listed in Section D-100.0 are found on the following pages.

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM APPLICATION		Maine Dept. of Health & Human Services Division of Environmental Health, SHS 11 (207) 287-5338 Fax (207) 287-3165	
PROPERTY LOCATION		>> Caution Permit Required -- Attach in Space Below << <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> The Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System shall not be installed until a Permit is attached HERE by the Local Plumbing Inspector. The permit shall authorize the owner or installer to install the disposal system in accordance with this application and the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules. </div>	
City, Town, or Plantation			
Street or Road			
Subdivision, Lot #			
OWNER/APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Name (last, first, MI) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant			
Mailing Address of Owner/Applicant _____			
Daytime Tel. # _____			
Owner or Applicant Statement I state and acknowledge that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge and understand that any falsification is reason for the Department and/or Local Plumbing Inspector to deny a Permit.		Caution: Inspection Required I have inspected the installation authorized above and found it to be in compliance with the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules Application. _____ (1st) Date Approved _____ (2nd) Date Approved _____	
Signature of Owner or Applicant _____ Date _____		Municipal Tax Map # _____ Lot # _____ Local Plumbing Inspector Signature _____	
PERMIT INFORMATION			
TYPE OF APPLICATION <input type="checkbox"/> 1. First Time System <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Replacement System Type Replaced: _____ Year Installed: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Expanded System <input type="checkbox"/> a. Minor Expansion <input type="checkbox"/> b. Major Expansion <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Experimental System <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Seasonal Conversion	THIS APPLICATION REQUIRES <input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Rule Variance <input type="checkbox"/> 2. First Time System Variance <input type="checkbox"/> a. Local Plumbing Inspector Approval <input type="checkbox"/> b. State & Local Plumbing Inspector Approval <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Replacement System Variance <input type="checkbox"/> a. Local Plumbing Inspector Approval <input type="checkbox"/> b. State & Local Plumbing Inspector Approval <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Minimum Lot Size Variance <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Seasonal Conversion Approval	DISPOSAL SYSTEM COMPONENTS <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Complete Non-engineered System <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Primitive System (graywater & alt. toilet) <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Alternative Toilet, specify: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Non-engineered Treatment Tank (only) <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Holding Tank, _____ gallons <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Non-engineered Disposal Field (only) <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Separated Laundry System <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Complete Engineered System (2000 gpd or more) <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Engineered Treatment Tank (only) <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Engineered Disposal Field (only) <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Pre-treatment, specify: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Miscellaneous Components	
SIZE OF PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> sq. ft. <input type="checkbox"/> acres	DISPOSAL SYSTEM TO SERVE <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Single Family Dwelling Unit, No. of bedrooms: ____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Multiple Family Dwelling, No. of Units: ____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other: _____ (specify) Current Use: <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal <input type="checkbox"/> Year Round <input type="checkbox"/> Undeveloped	TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Drilled Well <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Dug Well <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Private <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Public <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Other: _____	
SHORELAND ZONING <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
DESIGN DETAILS (SYSTEM LAYOUT SHOWN ON PAGE 3)			
TREATMENT TANK <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> a. Regular <input type="checkbox"/> b. Low profile <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Plastic <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other: _____ CAPACITY _____ gallons	DISPOSAL FIELD TYPE & SIZE <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Stone Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Stone Trench <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Proprietary Device <input type="checkbox"/> a. Cluster array <input type="checkbox"/> c. Linear <input type="checkbox"/> b. Regular load <input type="checkbox"/> d. H-20 load <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other: _____ SIZE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> sq. ft. <input type="checkbox"/> lin. ft.	GARBAGE DISPOSAL UNIT <input type="checkbox"/> 1. No <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Maybe If Yes or Maybe, specify one below: <input type="checkbox"/> a. Multi-compartment Tank <input type="checkbox"/> b. _____ Tanks in Series <input type="checkbox"/> c. Increase in Tank Capacity <input type="checkbox"/> d. Filter on Tank Outlet	DESIGN FLOW _____ gallons per day BASED ON: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Table 501.1 (dwelling unit(s)) <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Table 502.2 (other facilities) SHOW CALCULATIONS -- for other facilities -- <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Section 503.0 (meter readings) ATTACH WATER-METER DATA
SOIL DATA & DESIGN CLASS PROFILE _____ CONDITION _____ DESIGN _____ at Observation Hole # _____ Depth _____" Elevation _____" OF MOST LIMITING SOIL FACTOR	DISPOSAL FIELD SIZING <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Small -- 2.0 sq. ft./gpd <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Medium -- 2.6 sq. ft./gpd <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Medium-Large -- 3.3 sq. ft./gpd <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Large -- 4.1 sq. ft./gpd <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Extra-Large -- 5.0 sq. ft./gpd	EFFLUENT/EJECTOR PUMP <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Not Required <input type="checkbox"/> 2. May Be Required <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Required Specify only for engineered systems: DOSE: _____ gallons	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE at Center of Disposal Area Lat. _____ d _____ m _____ s Lon. _____ d _____ m _____ s If GPS, state margin of error: _____
SITE EVALUATOR STATEMENT			
I certify that on _____ (date) I completed a site evaluation on this property and state that the data reported are accurate and that the proposed system is in compliance with the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules (10-144A CMR 241).			
Site Evaluator Signature _____	SE # _____	Date _____	
Site Evaluator Name Printed _____	Telephone # _____	Email Address _____	
Note: Changes to or deviations from the design should be confirmed with the Site Evaluator.			

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM APPLICATION

Maine Dept. of Health & Human Services
Division of Environmental Health, STS 11
(207) 287-5338 FAX (207) 287-3165

Town, City, Plantation

Street, Road, Subdivision

Owner or Applicant Name

SITE PLAN

Scale: 1" = _____ ft.

SITE LOCATION MAP
(Attach map from Maine Atlas
for First Time System Variance)

SOIL PROFILE DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION

(Location of Observation Holes Shown Above)

Observation Hole # _____ ☐ Test Pit ☐ Boring

Depth below mineral soil surface (inches)	_____ " Depth of organic horizon above mineral soil			
	Texture	Consistency	Color	Mottling
0				
6				
12				
18				
24				
30				
36				
42				
48				

Soil	Classification	Slope	Limiting Factor	<input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater
Profile	Condition	Percent	Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Restrictive Layer
				<input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock

Observation Hole # _____ ☐ Test Pit ☐ Boring

Depth below mineral soil surface (inches)	_____ " Depth of organic horizon above mineral soil			
	Texture	Consistency	Color	Mottling
0				
6				
12				
18				
24				
30				
36				
42				
48				

Soil	Classification	Slope	Limiting Factor	<input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater
Profile	Condition	Percent	Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Restrictive Layer
				<input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock

Site Evaluator Signature

SE #

Date

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SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM APPLICATION		Maine Dept. of Health & Human Services Division of Environmental Health, STS 11 (207) 287-5338 FAX (207) 287-3165
Town, City, Plantation	Street, Road, Subdivision	Owner or Applicant Name
SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL PLAN		Scale: 1" = _____ ft.
BACKFILL REQUIREMENTS Depth of Backfill (upslope) _____" Depth of Backfill (downslope) _____" DEPTHS AT CROSS-SECTION (shown below)	CONSTRUCTION ELEVATIONS Finished Grade Elevation _____" Top of Distribution Pipe or Proprietary Device _____" Bottom of Disposal Field _____"	ELEVATION REFERENCE POINT Location & Description: _____ Reference Elevation is: 0.0" or: _____
DISPOSAL FIELD CROSS-SECTION		Scales: Vertical: 1" = _____ ft. Horizontal: 1" = _____ ft.
_____ Site Evaluator Signature	_____ SE #	_____ Date

REPLACEMENT SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST

THE LIMITATIONS OF THE REPLACEMENT SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST

This form must be attached to an application (HHE-200) for any replacement system which requires a variance to the Rules. The LPI shall review the Replacement System Variance Request and HHE-200 and may approve the Request if all of the following requirements are met.

1. The proposed design meets the definition of a Replacement System as defined in the Rules (Sec. 1906.0)
2. The replacement system is determined by the Site Evaluator to be the most practical method to treat and dispose of the wastewater.
3. The BOD5 plus S.S. content of the wastewater is no greater than that of normal domestic effluent.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town of _____

Permit No. _____

Date Permit Issued _____

Property Owner's Name: _____ Tel. No.: _____

System's Location: _____

Property Owner's Address: _____

(if different from above) _____

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS TO THE:

LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTOR (LPI):

If any of the variances exceed your approval authority and/or do not meet all of the requirements listed under the Limitations Section above, then you are to send this Replacement System Variance Request, along with the Application, to the Department for review and approval consideration before issuing a Permit. (See reverse side for Comments Section and your signature.)

SITE EVALUATOR:

If after completing the Application, you find that a variance for the proposed replacement system is needed, complete the Replacement Variance Request with your signature on reverse side of form.

PROPERTY OWNER:

If has been determined by the Site Evaluator that a variance to the Rules is required for the proposed replacement system. This variance request is due to physical limitations of the site and/or soil conditions. The Site Evaluator has considered the site/soil restrictions and has concluded that a replacement system in total compliance with the Rules is not possible.

PROPERTY OWNER

I understand that the proposed system requires a variance to the Rules. Should the proposed system malfunction, I release all concerned provided they have performed their duties in a reasonable and proper manner, and I will promptly notify the Local Plumbing Inspector and make any corrections required by the Rules. By signing the variance request form, I acknowledge permission for representatives of the Department to enter onto the property to perform such duties as may be necessary to evaluate the variance request.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER

DATE

LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTOR

I, _____, the undersigned, have visited the above property and have determined to the best of my knowledge that it cannot be installed in compliance with the Rules. As a result of my review of the Replacement Variance Request, the Application, and my on-site investigation, I (☐ approve, ☐ disapprove) the variance request based on my authority to grant this variance. Note: If the LPI does not give his approval, he shall list his reasons for denial in **Comments** Section below and return to the applicant.

Comments: _____

LPI SIGNATURE

DATE

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FORMS

Replacement System Variance Request

VARIANCE CATEGORY							VARIANCE REQUESTED TO:	
SOILS								
Soil Profile	Ground Water Table						inches	
Soil Condition	Restrictive Layer						inches	
from HHE-200	Bedrock						inches	
SETBACK DISTANCES (in feet)	Disposal Fields			Septic Tanks			Disposal Fields	Septic Tanks
From	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd	Less than 1000 gpd	1000 to 2000 gpd	Over 2000 gpd	To	To
Wells with water usage of 2000 or more gpd or public water system wells	300 ft	300 ft	300 ft	150 ft	150 ft	150 ft		
Private Potable Water Supply	100 ft [a]	200 ft	300 ft	50 ft	100 ft	100 ft		
Water supply line	10 ft	20 ft	25 ft [g]	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft [g]		
Water course, major -	100 ft [c]	200 ft [c]	300 ft [c]	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft		
Water course, minor	50 ft [d]	100 ft [d]	150 ft [d]	50 ft [d]	50 ft [d]	50 ft [d]		
Drainage ditches	25 ft	50 ft	75 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft		
Edge of fill extension -- Coastal wetlands, special freshwater wetlands, great ponds, rivers, streams	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]	25 ft [d]		
Slopes greater than 3:1	10 ft [f]	18 ft [f]	25 ft [f]	N/A	N/A	N/A		
No full basement [e.g. slab, frost wall, columns]	15 ft	30 ft	40 ft	8 ft	14 ft	20 ft		
Full basement [below grade foundation]	20 ft	30 ft	40 ft	8 5 ft	14 ft	20 ft		
Property lines	10 ft [b]	18 ft [b]	20 ft [b]	10 ft [b]	15 ft [b]	20 ft [b]		
Burial sites or graveyards, measured from the down toe of the fill extension	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft	25 ft		
OTHER								
1. Fill extension Grade - to 3:1								
2.								
3.								

Footnotes: [a.] Private Potable water Supply setbacks may be reduced as prescribed in Chapter 7

[b.] Additional setbacks may be needed to prevent fill material extensions from encroaching onto abutting property.

[c.] Additional setbacks may be required by local Shoreland zoning.

[d.] Natural Resource Protection Act requires a 25 feet setback, on slopes of less than 20%, from the edge of soil disturbance and 100 feet on slopes greater than 20%. See Chapter 15.

[e.] May not be any closer to a private potable water supply than the existing disposal field or septic tank. This setback may be reduced for single family houses with Department approval. See Section 702.3.

[f.] The fill extension shall reach the existing ground before the 3:1 slope or within 100 feet of the disposal field.

[g.] See Section 1402.8 for special procedures when these minimum setbacks cannot be achieved.

SITE EVALUATOR'S SIGNATURE_____
DATE**FOR USE BY THE DEPARTMENT ONLY**The Department has reviewed the variance(s) and (☐ does ☐ does not) give its approval. Any additional requirements, recommendations, or reasons for the Variance denial, are given in the attached letter._____
SIGNATURE OF THE DEPARTMENT_____
DATE

Page 2, HHE-204 Rev 08/09

FIRST TIME SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST

This form must accompany an Application (HHE-200) for a proposed first time system which requires a Variance to provisions of the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules. The local plumbing inspector shall not issue a permit for the installation of a first time subsurface wastewater disposal system requiring a variance from the Department of Health and Human Services until approval has been received from them.

<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>		Town of _____
Permit No. _____		Date Permit Issued _____
Property Owner's Name: _____		Tel. No.: _____
System's Location: _____		
Property Owner's Address: _____		
(if different from above) _____		

VARIANCE CONDITIONS

The municipality has the authority to vary the requirements of the Rules in accordance with Section 1902.1 of the Rules CMR 241 if all the following criteria are satisfied:

- a. The variance request has the approval of the LPI.
- b. The Municipal Officers have indicated that the variance does not conflict with any local wastewater disposal ordinances.
- c. The variance request demonstrates that there is no practical alternative for wastewater disposal, such as access to public sewer or the potential for an easement.
- d. The proposed system does not conflict with any provision controlling subsurface wastewater disposal in the Shoreland Zone.
- e. The site offers potential for a system which will dispose of the wastewater with minimal threat to public health, safety, or welfare.
- f. The property owner has indicated an awareness of the variance and any limitations or added costs the proposed system may require.

SOIL, SITE AND ENGINEERING FACTORS FOR NEW SYSTEM VARIANCE ASSESSMENT (SEE TABLES 1900.1-1900.11)

	CHARACTERISTIC	POINT ASSESSMENT
Soil Profile		
Depth to Groundwater/Restrictive Layer		
Terrain		
Size of Property		
Waterbody Setback		
Water Supply		
Type of Development		
Disposal Area Adjustment		
Vertical Separation Adjustment		
Additional Treatment		
TOTAL POINT ASSESSMENT (Sec. 1904.5)		

<u>SPECIFIC VARIANCE REQUESTED</u> (To be filled in by Site Evaluator)	SECTION OF
<u>RULE</u>	
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

SITE EVALUATOR

When a property is found to be unsuitable for subsurface wastewater disposal for a First Time System Variance by a Licensed Site Evaluator, the Evaluator shall so inform the property owner. If the property owner, after exploring all other alternatives, wishes to request a Variance to the Rules, and the Evaluator in his professional opinion feels the variance request is justified and the site limitations can be overcome, he shall document the soil and site conditions on the Application. The Evaluator shall list the specific variances necessary plus describe below the proposed system design and function. The Evaluator shall further describe how the specific site limitations are to be overcome, and provide any other support documentation as required prior to consideration by the municipality.
(Use Additional Sheets, if needed)

I, _____, S.E., certify that a variance to the Rules is necessary since a system cannot be installed which will completely satisfy all the Rule requirements. In my judgment, the proposed system design on the attached Application is the best alternative available; enhances the potential of the site for subsurface wastewater disposal; and that the system should function properly.

SIGNATURE OF SITE EVALUATOR

DATE

HHE-215 Rev 6/00

FORMS

PROPERTY OWNER

I, _____, am the ☐ owner ☐ agent for the owner of the subject property. I understand that the installation on the Application is not in total compliance with the Rules. Should the proposed system malfunction, I release all concerned provided they have performed their duties in a reasonable and proper manner, and I will promptly notify the Local Plumbing Inspector and make any corrections required by the Rules. By signing the variance request form, I acknowledge permission for representatives of the Department to enter onto the property to perform such duties as may be necessary to evaluate the variance request.

☐ SIGNATURE OF OWNER
☐ AGENT FOR THE OWNER

DATE

MUNICIPAL OFFICER(S) (Selectman, Councilman, Alderman, Mayor, Town Manager)

We, the Municipal Officer(s) of _____ have reviewed this application and are aware that the applicant is applying for a First Time System Variance to the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules because the proposed system does not meet all requirements of the rules. The proposed variance request ☐ does ☐ does not comply with all Municipal Ordinances relating to subsurface wastewater disposal.

SIGNATURE FOR THE MUNICIPALITY

TITLE

DATE

LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTOR - Approval at local level

The local plumbing inspector shall review all First Time System Variance requests prior to rendering a decision.

I, _____, the undersigned, have visited the above property and find that the variance request submitted by the applicant does not conform to certain provisions of the wastewater disposal rules. The variance request submitted by the applicant is the best alternative for a subsurface wastewater disposal system on this property. The proposed system (☐ does ☐ does not) conflict with any provisions controlling subsurface wastewater disposal in the shoreland zone.

Therefore, I (☐ do ☐ do not) approve the requested variance. I (☐ will ☐ will not) issue a permit for the system's installation as proposed by the application.

LPI Signature

Date

LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTOR - Referral to the Department

The local plumbing inspector shall review all First Time System setback Variance requests prior to forwarding to the Division of Environmental Health.

I, _____, the undersigned, have visited the above property and find that the variance request submitted by the applicant does not conform to certain provisions of the wastewater disposal rules. The variance request submitted by the applicant is the best alternative for a subsurface wastewater disposal system on this property. The proposed system (☐ does ☐ does not) conflict with any provisions controlling subsurface wastewater disposal in the shoreland zone.

Therefore, I (☐ do ☐ do not) recommend the issuance of a permit for the system's installation as proposed by the application.

LPI Signature

Date

FOR USE BY THE DEPARTMENT ONLY

The Department has reviewed the variance(s) and (☐ does ☐ does not) give its approval. Any additional requirements, recommendations, or reasons for the Variance denial, are given in the attached letter.

SIGNATURE OF THE DEPARTMENT

DATE

Note: 1. Variances for soil conditions may be approved at the local level as long as the total point assessment is at least the minimum allowed. (See Section 1902.0 for Municipal Review.)

2. Variances for other than soil conditions or soil conditions beyond the limit of the LPI's authority are to be submitted to the Department for review. (See Section 1901.0 for Department Review.) The LPI's signature is required on these variance requests prior to sending them to the Department.

APPLICATION/AGREEMENT for HOLDING TANK INSTALLATION

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

Name _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Daytime telephone number _____ - _____ - _____

PROPERTY LOCATION

Street, Road, Route _____
 City/Town _____ Zip _____

APPLICATION FOR (check one)

- ☐ First Time Installation (If this is checked, give Town's **Ordinance** adoption date ____/____/____)
☐ First Time Installation, non-residential only, less than 100 gpd or 500 gal/week
☐ Replacing an existing overboard discharge, surface wastewater discharge or malfunctioning subsurface wastewater system
☐ Replacing an **existing** holding tank

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- * The installation of a conventional disposal system is not possible due to **unacceptable** site and/or soil conditions, lot configuration, or other constraints
- * Public sewer is not available.
- * All existing or proposed plumbing fixtures must be installed or modified for water conservation and all water closets must meet the Federal standard of 1.6 gallons per flush.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL

- A Completed Application consists of:
 * This form (HHE-233) completed with all signatures.
 * A completed *Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System Application* (HHE-200) prepared by a Licensed Site Evaluator.
 * Holding Tank Deeds Covenant Form, HHE-300 3/97
 * Replacement System Variance Request Form, as necessary.

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

I (we), _____ own the property described in this Application/Agreement.

1. Holding tanks require regular pumping by a licensed pumper. The owner must pay this service.
2. The holding tank will be pumped at least once a year by the pumper listed on this application. Another pumper may be used if the listed pumper is notified and the LPI approves the change. The new pumper will then be listed on an attachment to this agreement.
3. A water meter must be installed at the owner's expense if required by the LPI.
4. All records of pumping and water use (if required) must be kept for at least three years and must be made available to the LPI or other official if requested.
5. A holding tank for new construction can only be replaced by a system meeting first time system requirements.
6. Once approved this form must be recorded at the Registry of Deeds, cross referenced to the owner's deed.
7. We agree to comply with any additional requirements of the Town.

We state that all the information presented with this application is true and accurate, we acknowledge the foregoing items and agree to comply with all the requirements.

Property Owner(s) Signature _____ Date _____

Property Owner(s) Signature _____ Date _____

FORMS

Owner _____ Property Location _____

SITE EVALUATION STATEMENT

I, _____, state that I have evaluated the subject property and found that a subsurface wastewater disposal system is not practical. Secondly, I have completed a *Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System Application* (HHE-200) proposing a holding tank installation for the property's wastewater disposal.

Site Evaluator's Signature _____ Date _____

HOLDING TANK PUMPER INFORMATION

Business owner's name _____ License # _____

Business name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business telephone _____ - _____ - _____

Max. truck hauling capacity _____ gallons

Can pump: _____ seasonally _____ year round

DEP licensed disposal site location _____ Site # _____

HOLDING TANK PUMPER STATEMENT

I, _____, own and operate a septage pumping business named in this **Application/Agreement**, and have contracted with the property owner(s) to pump and properly dispose of the tank's waste. I further state that the tank, and that the wastewater will be disposed of at a Department of Environmental Protection licensed disposal location.

Holding Tank Pumper's Signature _____ Date _____

Municipal Officers Statement

I (we) have reviewed the information submitted in support of this application.

I (we) find that the installation of the holding tank will not violate any local ordinances.

I (we) will authorize the LPI to enforce the requirements of this agreement, the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and any local ordinances, including recordkeeping and required pumping.

I (we) recommend that the LPI issue the necessary permits for the installation of the holding tank.

Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

Local Plumbing Inspector's Statement

I have reviewed this application and find that the issuance of a permit for the holding tank complies with the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and all pertinent local ordinances.

Additional Requirements: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Page 2, HHE-233 (Rev 7/05)

NOTICE OF INTENT TO INSTALL A SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERTAINING TO THE EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING STRUCTURE .

DATE: _____

OWNER'S NAME:

First _____ Last _____

PROPERTY LOCATION:

Town/City _____ Street/Road _____

Lot # _____ Map # _____ Book # _____ Page # _____

The Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System specified on the attached plan has been designed to replace an existing system currently in use. The replacement disposal system design is required due to an expansion resulting in an increase in wastewater flow. The attached design meets the requirements of the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules and will be installed at some future date. This notice is given pursuant to 30A MRSA 4211 subsection 3B.

LAND OWNER'S NAME PRINTED_____
LAND OWNER'S SIGNATURE

State of Maine

County of _____, ss Date _____

Then personally appeared the above named _____ and

_____ and (severally) acknowledged the

foregoing instrument to be his (or their) free act and deed.

Before me, _____
Justice of the Peace or Notary Public

HHE-234 Rev 7/05

FORMS

Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Environmental Health
#11 State House Station
Augusta ME 04333
Tel: (207)287-5672
Fax: (207) 287-4172

\$50.00 REVIEW FEE
Make check payable to:
"Treasurer of State"
Appropriation #
014-10A-2426-01-2615

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE TO THE MINIMUM LOT SIZE LAW REQUIREMENTS (12 MRSA §4807-B, 4807-C)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Local Agent (Name, Address and Tel. #) _____

LOT LOCATION

Name of Project: _____

Street or Route Number: _____

Municipality or Township: _____

County: _____

By signing this application, the applicant certifies that he/she has (1) sent a copy of the notice form to the owners of property abutting the land upon which the project is located; (2) sent a copy of the public notice form to the chief municipal officer, chairperson of the municipal planning board and the Local Plumbing Inspector, and (3) filed a duplicate of this application in the municipal office.

DATE: _____

Signature of Applicant

(If signature is other than the applicant,
attach letter of agent authorization.)

Print name and title

HHE-236 7/05

PROJECT SUMMARY - MINIMUM LOT SIZE

1. Size of lot: _____ square feet or acres.
2. Dimensions of lot: _____ ' X _____ ' X _____ ' X _____ '
3. Is the lot owner the owner of adjacent property? (check one) ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. If the answer to question No. 3 is "YES":
 - (a) Give dimensions of total parcel owned, which includes the lot being applied for:
 _____ X _____ X _____ X _____
 - (b) Give description of present use of adjacent property:

 - (c) Attach a plan showing ENTIRE parcel owned, including lot described in 1 & 2 above, if the entire parcel is not described on the licensed site evaluator's report (HHE-200 form).
 - (d) Give plans for future use, of any adjacent land owned:

5. Attach a copy of deed, lease, option or other legal document establishing applicant's title, right or interest in the land described in 1, 2 and 4 above.
6. Is this lot a part of a subdivision? (check one) ☐ YES ☐ NO
7. If the answer to Question No. 6 is "YES" give name of subdivision, date plan filed, and registry location:

8. If lot is located within 1/2 mile of any lake, pond, stream, river, tidal area, swamp or marsh:
 - (a) Give approximate distance: _____ feet to water.
 - (b) Give name of water body: _____
 - (c) If abutting, give length of shoreline covered by lot: _____ feet.

9. Drinking water supply on lot (existing or proposed):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Public water system
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Community Water Supply
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private On-Site Water Supply (well, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, describe

12. Nature of Waste:

☐ Domestic Waste, Including Sanitary Waste

☐ Other: (Please Specify) _____

NOTE: (1) IF SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE 300 GAL/DAY; (2) IF MULTIPLE UNIT HOUSING MULTIPLY NUMBER OF BEDROOMS TIMES 120 GAL/DAY; (3) IF "OTHER LAND USE ACTIVITY" SET FORTH ACTUAL MEASUREMENT OR COMPUTATION ON A SEPARATE SHEET.

15. The applicant shall set forth below the names and addresses of the owners of property abutting the lot which is the subject of the application. By signing this application the applicant certified that he has provided each with a copy of the notice similar in form to that which is attached to this application.

NAME	ADDRESS

HHE-236 Page 4

NOTE: Use this form or one containing identical information:

NOTICE

(to owners of abutting property, municipal officials, and local plumbing inspector)

Please take notice that _____
(Name of Applicant)

(Address of Applicant)

is filing an application for a Waiver of Minimum Lot Size Law Requirements with the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Environmental Health pursuant to the provisions of 12 MRSA Sections 4807-B and 4807-C for permission to

(State specifically what is to be done)

will be filed for public inspection at the Department's office in Augusta and at the municipal offices of _____ on _____
(Name of Municipality) (Date of Filing)

Written comments from any interested persons must be sent to the Division of Environmental Health, #11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 within 14 days of filing of the application to receive consideration.

STATEMENT OF RULE COMPLIANCE

I, _____ (please print), am the ☐ septic system installer, ☐

site evaluator, or ☐ professional engineer, and state that I either ☐ installed the septic system in compliance,

or ☐ inspected the system's installation for compliance with the **Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal**

Rules and the **Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System Application**, a.k.a. the HHE-200 form completed

by _____

SE license number _____, prepared by same on ____ / ____ / ____.

The property owner's name is: _____

The location of the property is: _____

The SSWW Disposal System **permit number** is: _____

Signature of either system installer, SE, or PE _____

Date signed: ____ / ____ / ____

AFFIDAVIT OF SITE PREPARATION

This affidavit is to be completed by a certified system installer and submitted to the Local Plumbing Inspector to document compliance with **Section 111.5.1** of the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, **144 CMR 241**. *Permission to utilize this document in lieu of a site preparation inspection by the Local Plumbing Inspector must be verified when the permit is issued.* This affidavit is *not* to be utilized in place of the system inspection described in **Section 111.5.2** of the Rules.

INSTALLER NAME: _____
(Please Print)

CERTIFICATION NUMBER: _____

SSWD PERMIT NUMBER: _____

PERMIT ISSUE DATE: _____

PROPERTY OWNER NAME: _____

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

MUNICIPALITY: _____

By signing and submitting this document to the Local Plumbing Inspector, I certify that all construction activities noted in **Section 111.5.1** including removal of all vegetation from the disposal field area and fill extensions as specified in **Section 801.3**; roughening of the ground surface as specified in **Section 801.4**; establishment of a transitional horizon as specified in **Section 801.5**; and placement of erosion control devices as specified in **Section 801.2** have been completed in full compliance with the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, **144 CMR 241** for the referenced SSWD permit.

INSTALLER SIGNATURE: _____

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

By signing and accepting this document from the Certified Installer, I acknowledge that a site preparation inspection was not conducted for the referenced SSWD permit.

LPI SIGNATURE: _____

ACCEPTANCE	
------------	--

FORMS

Municipality:	LPI Certification #:	Permittee Name:
Permit Issue Date:	Permit Number:	Street Address:
Installer Name:	Installer Certification #:	
Site Evaluator Name:	SE License #:	Tax Map #: Tax Lot #:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Checked By</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>	<u>Initials</u>	<u>Comment</u>
TREATMENT TANK(S)				
Inlet & Outlet Elevations	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Inlet & Outlet Baffles	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Access Openings	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Tank Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
PUMP SYSTEMS				
Level Switches	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
High Water Alarm Circuit	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Access Openings	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Tank Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
DISPOSAL AREA				
Site Preparation	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
System Footprint	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Horizontal Setbacks	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Backfill Material	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Shoulder & Fill	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Extensions	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Elevations	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Stone Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Proprietary Devices	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Filter Fabric/Hay	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Distribution Piping	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Surface Water Diversion	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			
Site Stabilization	<input type="checkbox"/> LPI <input type="checkbox"/> Installer <input type="checkbox"/> SE			

By signing this document I certify that all construction activities, materials, and components noted above have been completed or installed in full compliance with the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, **144 CMR 241** for the referenced SSWD permit.

	Date
Title:	

HOLDING TANK DEED COVENANT FORM

Property Owner: Complete and record this form with your County Registry of Deeds. Then forward a copy of the recorded deed covenant to the your municipality's Local Plumbing Inspector.

County Registrar: Please cross-reference this document with book and page no.

Property Owner Statement: I(we), _____ are the
owner(s) of the property located at _____ (street)
_____ (town).

The property's deed is recorded in book no. _____, page no. _____.

We state that the holding tank installation for the aforementioned property received approval by the town of _____ and its officials.

Stipulations of Covenant:

Municipal Approval Conditions: This approval has been granted subject to the implementation of the above conditions and said approval will become null and void if the required and stated conditions of approval are violated.

Property Owner signature(s) _____

State of Maine

County _____, ss

Date _____

Then personally appeared the above named _____ (and)

_____ and (severally) acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his (or their) free act and deed.

Before me _____
Justice of the Peace or Notary Public

HHE-300 Rev. 8/05

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM VARIANCE DEED COVENANT

To Property Owner: Complete and record this form with your County Registry of Deeds. Afterward, submit a copy of the recorded covenant to the Local Plumbing Inspector and the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Environmental Health, State House Station #11, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011.

To County Registrar: Please cross reference by book and page number:

Book _____, Page _____.

Address of Property with Disposal System: _____.
(Incl. Municipal Book & Page No.) _____.

Stipulations of Covenant:

The Department of Health and Human Services and/or the Town of _____
_____ has approved a Variance to the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, 10-144
CMR 241, for the installation of a subsurface wastewater disposal system subject to the
implementation of the above conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

State of Maine

County of _____, ss. Date _____

Then personally appeared the above named _____

(and _____) and (severally) acknowledged the foregoing

instrument to be his (or their) free act and deed.

Before me, _____
Justice of the Peace or Notary Public

HHE-304 Rev 8/05

APPENDIX E

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM USE & MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Overview: The intent of these guidelines is to provide information for septic system owners and users so they are aware of appropriate actions to take to avoid misuse of the system, and to enhance and maintain system operation and longevity. It is the system owner's or user's responsibility for proper use and maintenance of the system to avoid potential health hazards, high costs, and disruption caused by a premature system malfunction.

There are many simultaneous processes affecting a septic system. Many of these are beneficial, i.e. they facilitate the decomposition of organic waste and the distribution of the liquid for absorption and purification by the soil. Others, however, are detrimental to the functioning of the septic system and may cause the system to malfunction many years before the end of the system's expected design life.

There are five main reasons why properly designed and installed septic systems become ineffective. These are:

- Lack of maintenance,
- Excessive water,
- Detrimental materials that are flushed or dumped down household drains,
- Agents that kill beneficial bacteria, and
- Physical damage to the system components.

Any or all of these factors may contribute to a steady decline in the effective functioning of a septic system. By taking the following action steps, users can extend the functional life of the septic system by many years.

System Maintenance: Maintenance of a septic system is critical. Because the system is underground, conditions may develop that are undetectable until malfunction symptoms appear. By then, it may be too late to avoid a costly and disruptive system replacement. The following actions are recommended for proper septic system maintenance:

Safety Note: Use extreme caution when opening the septic tank as it contains dangerous gases and bacteria. Always wear protective clothing and wash with antibacterial soap after coming in contact with any part of the septic system.

- Pump the septic tank when the accumulation of solids is equal to no more than 1/3 of the volume of the tank. Generally, pumping should be done every 2 to 5 years, depending on how heavily the system is used.
- If a garbage disposal or grinder unit ("dispose-all") is used with the system, pump the septic tank every year, because of the rapid solids buildup in the tank. Be sure that an effluent filter is present at the outlet of the tank.
- Use a reputable pumper who will remove all of the solids. Insist that the pumper clean the septic tank through the manhole in the center of the top of the tank.
- Be present when the tank is being pumped and ask the pumper to check the condition of the inlet and outlet baffles.
- If the tank is more than 12" below the ground surface, install a service access riser and cover to facilitate pumping. Deep tanks are often ignored because of the additional expense of exposing the cover.
- If an effluent filter is installed in the septic tank, clean the filter at least annually, and install a service access riser and cover for easy access to the filter.
- Maintain a written record of all pumping and other service.
- If a system site plan does not exist, create one by recording the location of the septic tank, pump chamber, distribution box and disposal field. Include reference distances so each component can be easily located for future inspections.
- Have the entire septic system inspected by a qualified inspector every five years to detect any adverse conditions that, if found early, can be corrected thereby preventing the need for a costly, disruptive system replacement.
- If an effluent pump is a component of the system, open the pump chamber every year and visually check the piping, electrical connections, floats and alarm for proper operation.
- If the septic system needs repairs, check with your Local Plumbing Inspector to determine if a permit is required.

Excessive Water: Reducing the amount of water flowing into the septic tank at any one time will result in cleaner effluent leaving the septic tank and reduce the likelihood of organic clogging of the disposal field. Preventing excessive water from entering the septic system's disposal field will reduce the likelihood of saturation of the underlying soil. Actions to prevent excessive water from entering the disposal system include:

- Install low-flow devices in showerheads and aerators on faucets.
- Install new washers in all leaking faucets and toilets.
- Install low-flow toilets or add a displacer in the tank of existing ones.
- Install a drain-limiting valve on all bathtubs equipped with jets.
- Install a front-loading clothes washing machine, which uses less water than a top-loader.

INDEX

- Set water level in washing machine appropriate for the amount of clothes to be washed, or wash only full loads.
- Avoid doing multiple loads of laundry over a short period of time; instead, space out laundry loads over the course of a week.
- Take shorter showers.
- When doing household or personal tasks, avoid letting the water run continuously unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Drain appliances one at a time.
- Divert gutter downspout discharges, sump pump discharges, floor drains, and house footing drains, away from the septic system. Introduction of this water to a system is prohibited by Section 205.0 of the Rules, except that floor drains may be connected under certain conditions (see Section 205.3 of the Rules).
- Grade the area or install a curtain drain to divert surfacewater away from the septic system.
- If adding bedrooms to the dwelling, check to make sure the septic system is designed to handle the expected additional wastewater flow, and have the system expanded if necessary.

Detrimental Materials: Nothing should go into the septic tank except wastewater from the drains, human waste, and toilet paper. There are items that will not break down and will simply fill up the tank and reduce its volume. Many household chemicals and compounds stay either in solution or in suspension, which may be carried into and clog the disposal field, or may leach into the underlying soil and enter the groundwater as contaminants. Following is a partial list of things that should be kept out of the disposal system:

- All paper products including tissues, wipes, napkins, paper towels, cardboard tubes, newspaper, etc.
- Personal products such as razor blades, tampons, condoms, disposable diapers, floss, etc.
- Hair from human and pet combs or brushes.
- Plastic or cellophane wrappings.
- Cigarette butts.
- Coffee grounds.
- Laundry lint (installation of a laundry lint filter on the washing machine is an important preventative measure).
- Powdered laundry detergents (use liquid instead).
- Chemicals other than normal household cleaners, such as paints, solvents, oils, greases, degreasers, and photographic developing solutions. These substances are prohibited by Section 204.0 of the Rules.
- Products containing phosphorous.
- Grease associated with food preparation.
- Grease emulsifiers.
- Plate scrapings.
- Food preparation wastes.
- Cat litter.
- Deceased animals or animal parts.
- Additives intended to promote bacterial activity or to "clean" the septic tank. They are unnecessary and may harm the septic system. Human waste contains ample bacteria to maintain the decomposition process within the septic tank. Cleaning additives may liquefy the sludge and scum in the tank, which then exit the tank and end up clogging the disposal field, and causing a malfunction. Some additives are prohibited by Sections 204.0 and 910.0 of the Rules.
- Avoid using a garbage disposal unit, but if used, it should be used sparingly. Heavy use will lead to rapid filling of the septic tank with solid organic matter. Use of a garbage disposal unit is not permitted for a septic system unless either the septic tank has an effluent filter or the tank capacity is oversized to accommodate the additional volume of organic material. See Section 913.0 of the Rules.

Antibacterial Agents: There are microbes throughout the septic system that are digesting solids, consuming pathogens, and helping to purify the water as it returns to the groundwater. There are many common chemical compounds, which when introduced to the septic system, are lethal to these bacteria and should be avoided. The following products should be disposed of sparingly, if at all:

- Strong lye-based drain cleaners or clog removers.
- Oven cleaners.
- Chlorine bleach.
- Toilet bowl cleaners that discharge bleach with each flush.
- Antibacterial cleansers.
- Solvents.
- Any root killer or product containing copper sulfate.

- Outdated or surplus medicines.

Physical Damage to System Components: The components of a modern septic system are very durable and will last for decades. However, they are very susceptible to physical damage when subjected to conditions for which they were not designed.

- Do not place structures over the septic system as they may block access for service and inspection, or interfere with evaporation and the transfer of oxygen into the soil. This is prohibited by Section 116.2 of the Rules.
- Avoid driving any vehicle or machinery over the septic system, unless it is specifically designed to bear the weight. The weight of vehicles will compact the soil and may crush tight lines, laterals, chambers, tubes, or other components.
- Avoid allowing livestock to graze over the disposal area.
- Avoid planting shrubs with deep roots or trees in or near the disposal area. The roots will eventually enter the pipes or chambers and may create blockages.
- **Safety Note: Exercise care when digging in the area of an effluent pump chamber, since there is a live buried electrical line that may be severed.**

Signs of a septic system malfunction: If any of these conditions occur, a professional should be contacted to evaluate the situation and determine the appropriate corrective action:

- Wastewater backing up into toilets, tubs, or sinks, or seepage into parts of buildings below ground.
- Slowly draining fixtures, particularly after it has rained.
- Raw sewage odors accompanied by extremely soggy soil over the disposal field.
- Ponding or outbreak of wastewater on the surface of the ground at the septic tank or disposal field.
- Contamination of nearby water supply wells or waterbodies/courses.

A malfunctioning septic system is defined in Chapter 3 of the Rules.

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